

SEAN PATRICK MALONEY
18TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE

1027 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-5441

123 GRAND ST., 2ND FLOOR
NEWBURGH, NY 12550
(845) 561-1259

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3218

May 17, 2019

Ms. Meghan Taylor
Mid-Hudson Regional Director
Economic Development Council
33 Airport Center Drive, #201
New Windsor, NY 12553

Dear Ms. Taylor,


I write in support of the application submitted by the Village of Highland Falls to the Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI).

As you may know, the Village of Highland Falls was designated in 2008 as a Preserve America Community. Located in the idyllic Hudson River Valley, the Village remains an historic Hometown USA District supporting the lives and careers of its Village and Town residents as well as its West Point neighbors and surrounding communities. The Village is therefore uniquely poised to capitalize on its proximity to the Hudson River and United States Military Academy by expanding its connectivity to the waterfront and strengthening its infrastructure to better support its preservation efforts. The Village's Main Street corridor has remained a major tourist thoroughfare and provides a compact walkable area capable of transforming pedestrian and motorized connection routes to the waterfront and downtown commercial centers.

Award of this application would therefore incentivize future investments and support infrastructural growth by supplying the Village with the resources needed to expand its revitalization potential. The Village has been able to leverage and strengthen its downtown district by establishing itself as an historic tourist destination but remains unable to fully integrate its potential with improved and modernized infrastructural advancements. With your assistance, Highland Falls can continue to create jobs, spur economic growth, and implement the overall pillars of the DRI program by creating an economic engine and cultural gathering point for the Village, Town, and surrounding community. Please know, your investment in the Village will not only benefit this historic municipality, but also create long-term sustained growth throughout the Hudson Valley region for years to come.

Therefore, I ask that you give your full and fair consideration to this request. Thank you in advance for your time and attention to this matter as both are greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



Sean Patrick Maloney
Member of Congress



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info@hhlt.org
www.hhlt.org

May 16th, 2019

Hon. Joseph E. D'Onofrio
Village of Highland Falls
303 Main Street
Highland Falls, NY 10928

RE: Community Revitalization Grant

Dear Mayor D'Onofrio,

The Hudson Highlands Land Trust (HHLT) is writing in support of the Village's application for a Downtown Revitalization Grant.

HHLT is a nationally accredited, nonprofit land trust with a mission to protect and preserve the natural resources and scenic beauty of the Hudson Highlands area of New York State.

As a land conservation organization, HHLT offers our whole-hearted support for the Village of Highland Falls Downtown Revitalization Initiative. Revitalization of established urban centers such as downtown Highland Falls complements the preservation of surrounding rural areas. Robust urban centers concentrate economic development, thereby facilitating preservation of the surrounding landscape. Vibrant urban centers greatly improve residents' quality of life and the visitor experience to the area, in turn enhancing economic development opportunities for the Village.

A revitalized downtown Highland Falls provides areas needed for a spectrum of uses - cultural, institutional, business-related, employment and residential living. These opportunities are provided through the adaptive reuse of land and buildings that represent the heritage of community. This smart use of downtown Highland Falls will result in sustainable development set within a preserved regional landscape.

We support the Village's efforts to improve downtown Highland Falls and urge funding of this important initiative.

Sincerely,

Michelle D. Smith
Executive Director

Palisades Interstate Park Commission
Administration Building
3006 Seven Lakes Drive
PO Box 427
Bear Mountain, NY 10911-0427
Tel: 845-786-2701
Fax: 845-786-2776

James F. Hall
Executive Director

David H. Mortimer, President
Lloyd Tulp, Vice President
Philip H. White, Secretary
D. Bryce O'Brien, II, Treasurer
Barnabas McHenry
James E. Hanson II
Jeannette Redden
Sophie Heymann



May 13, 2019

Hon. Joseph D'Onofrio
Mayor
Village of Highland Falls
303 Main Street
Highland Falls, NY 10928

Dear Mayor D'Onofrio:

I am writing in support of the Village of Highland Fall's application for a Mid-Hudson Downtown Revitalization Grant. As Executive Director of the Palisades Interstate Park Commission (Commission), I am pleased to offer my support in the consideration of the Village's proposal.

This proposal contains elements that will support the economic, as well as social and cultural development of the community. These elements would not only benefit the Village's downtown areas but would also benefit the surrounding tourist attractions and add additional services for visitors coming to the region, as well as the parks and historic sites the Commission manages in the area.

Schoolchildren are also a great part of the visitation to the many historic and recreational sites in the Hudson Valley. This downtown grant would help expand their offerings and educational programs for them and their families.

This revitalization plan would also support veterans and cultural development in one of the most beautiful and historic places along the entire Hudson Valley.

Please do not hesitate to call upon me for any assistance I may be able to lend in this most worthwhile endeavor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'James Hall', is written over the typed name.

James Hall

TOWN of HIGHLANDS



*Bear Mountain
Fort Montgomery
Highland Falls
West Point*

Chartered December 3rd, 1872

*254 Main Street
Highland Falls, NY 10928
(845) 446-3398-4280
Fax: (845) 446-4298*

May 14, 2019

Mayor Joseph D'Onofrio
303 Main Street
Highland Falls, NY 10928

Dear Mayor D'Onofrio:

I am writing on behalf of the Village of Highland Falls' application for Village Downtown Revitalization Initiative Award.

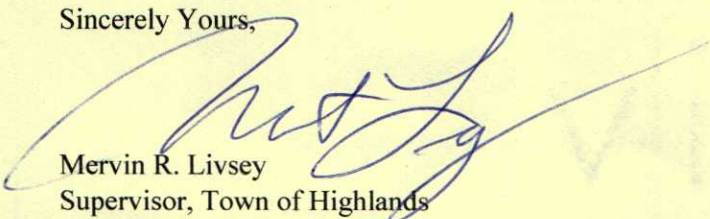
As you may be aware, the Town of Highlands and the Village of Highland Falls are in the process of exploring the feasibility of consolidation. We have waterfront access in the north end of the village and access in the town in the south end of the town. The downtown revitalization and waterfront development should work together to make the consolidated Town of Highlands a place to be proud of considering its location in the Hudson Valley on the Hudson and just outside the US Military Academy at West Point and the Palisades Interstate Parks.

Main Street, Highland Falls, quaint as it may be, is in dire need of revitalization and modernization. Lighting, sidewalks, business fronts and parking are all in need of uplifting to the standards expected in today's world.

Our tax base in our little community without any large businesses, allows very little for such revitalization. Development of Main Street will not only create a business district the community can use and be proud of, but will give millions of tourists passing through our town a reason to pause, explore and enjoy the many attributes of the region.

Be assured the Town of Highlands is in full support of the efforts of the Highland Falls Economic Development Corporation.

Sincerely Yours,


Mervin R. Livsey
Supervisor, Town of Highlands



Town of Highlands Historical Society

303 Main Street
Village Hall Bldg., 2nd Flr.
Highland Falls, New York 10928

historichudsonhighlands.org
845 - 446 - 0400
sbailey@highlandfallsny.org

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Mayor Joseph D'Onofrio
303 Main Street - Village Hall
Highland Falls, NY 10928

May 2019

Mayor D'Onofrio:

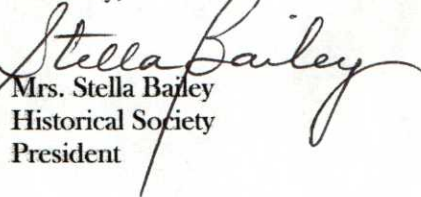
The Town of Highlands Historical Society strongly supports the efforts of our Village for their interest in securing a Community Revitalization Grant.

The Village of Highland Falls in the Town of Highlands is a historic Community from Revolutionary times up to the present Graduation of United States Military Academy Cadets. Tourists from all around the world visit the Hudson River Valley for its history, diversity and charm.

It is only fitting that Communities endeavor, through the assistance of this Development Grant to make their space as pleasing and secure as possible and ensure a continuation of its interest and values to the public and local residents.

Your assistance and consideration for all involved is greatly appreciated and sure to be successful.

Sincerely,


Mrs. Stella Bailey
Historical Society
President



HIGHLAND FALLS-FORT MONTGOMERY CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Dr. Frank Sheboy, Superintendent of Schools

May 9, 2019

Mayor Joseph D'Onofrio
303 Main Street
Highland Falls, NY 10928

Dear Mayor D'Onofrio,

I am writing in support of the Village of Highland Falls' application for a Mid-Hudson Downtown Revitalization Grant. As Superintendent of Schools for the Highland Falls-Fort Montgomery Central School District, I believe my support of this initiative is of significant value in consideration of the Village's proposal.

This proposal contains elements which will support the economic, as well as social and cultural development of the community. This will certainly benefit the children and the schools of the community. Wi-Fi service will assist those who do not have access to internet service due to economic conditions. Widening and improving sidewalks, as well as including a bicycle lane in the village, would enable people to move about the village in a more convenient and safe fashion. Improved and enhanced parkland and space would greatly advance recreational opportunities for village residents as well as visitors. Finally, having a permanent site for The Center would ensure that the valuable community services and programs that they provide would become more stable, allowing the dedicated volunteers to expand their offerings, benefiting our children.

The Village of Highland Falls would benefit greatly from this initiative. This plan would expand job opportunities for residents as well as individuals from surrounding communities. This plan would promote the community as a positive place to visit, and more importantly, to raise one's family. This plan would support veterans and promote educational and cultural development in one of the most beautiful and historic places along the Hudson River. This plan would bolster the appearance of a downtown, which, like so many, has seen a decline over the past few decades as economic transformation changed our economic base. It would enhance the quality of life for all residents of the village, providing opportunities that other communities already enjoy.

I believe that the Village of Highland Falls Downtown Revitalization Initiative would positively impact the entire community. It would certainly go a long way in transforming the village into a vibrant community where people would want to live, work, and raise their families. Accordingly, I write in support of this application.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or for clarification of this letter.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Frank Sheboy".

Dr. Frank Sheboy

CHAIR, MAJORITY MEMBER
INVESTIGATIONS & GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
COMMITTEES
AGRICULTURE
CORPORATIONS, AUTHORITIES & COMMISSIONS
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SENATOR
JAMES SKOUFIS
39TH SENATORIAL DISTRICT
STATE OF NEW YORK

ALBANY OFFICE:
ROOM 815
LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING
ALBANY, NY 12247
OFFICE: 518-455-3290

DISTRICT OFFICE:
1093 LITTLE BRITAIN RD.
NEW WINDSOR, NY 12553
OFFICE: 845-567-1270

e-mail:
skoufis@nysenate.gov

May 17, 2019

Mayor Joseph D'Onofrio
Village of Highland Falls
303 Main St.
Highland Falls, NY 10928

Dear Mayor D'Onofrio:

I write to support the application of the Village of Highland Falls for a Downtown Revitalization Initiative.

Highland Falls is a historic village going back to Colonial Days. Tourists from all over the world visit the village in the Hudson Valley for its history, diversity and charm. Highland Falls benefits from its proximity to the United States Military Academy at West Point. The village is already planning a celebration of the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution.

The grant would enhance the Highland Falls' reputation as a wonderful place to live, work and shop. It would provide a major boost to the village's commercial district, making it more attractive and safe. Revitalization of downtown Highland Falls would greatly impact the surrounding community as well as the village.

I support the revitalization of downtown Highland Falls. I hope the village is successful in its application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James Skoufis". The signature is stylized and cursive.

James Skoufis
State Senator



COLIN J. SCHMITT
Assemblyman 99th District

THE ASSEMBLY
STATE OF NEW YORK
ALBANY

RANKING MINORITY MEMBER
Local Governments Committee

COMMITTEES

Banks
Housing
Labor
Tourism, Parks,
Arts & Sports Development

Mayor Joseph D'Onofrio
Village Hall
303 Main Street
Highland Falls, NY 10928

Mayor D'Onofrio:

I am writing to express my strong support of the efforts of the Village of Highland Falls to secure a Community Revitalization Grant.

The Highland Falls community is of substantial historical significance with its roots stemming from Revolutionary Times. As home to West Point Military Academy, the Village of Highland Falls attracts many tourists from around the world year after year.

The Community Revitalization Grant will allow Highland Falls to invest in necessary improvements that will serve its residents and the many visitors that come to the village each year.

I look forward to hearing from you that the Village of Highland Falls is the recipient of this well-deserved and much needed Community Revitalization Grant.

I am here to support this effort in every way possible to ensure that Highland Falls is a recipient during this grant round.

Sincerely,

Colin J. Schmitt
Member of Assembly
99th District



May 5, 2019

Mayor D'Onofrio,

The Historic Thayer Hotel at West Point strongly supports the efforts of the Village for their interest in securing a Downtown Revitalization Initiative Grant from New York State.

The Village of Highland Falls in the Town of Highlands is a historic community that is the gateway to the world-renowned United States Military Academy at West Point, one of the top two visited tourist locations in New York State. As such, the historic town's appearance, infrastructure and amenities should be on par with the prestigious institution that domestic and international travelers are coming to visit.

The vision for the use of the funding from an award of the Downtown Revitalization Initiative help to put the town on par with what the state of Maryland can boast for the United States Naval Academy with the beautiful town of Annapolis. New York State should have a similar welcome to those taking advantage of tourism to West Point, the Mid-Hudson Region and Orange County. This revitalization effort will help to keep tourists in the area longer with a visually pleasing town, and functional modern infrastructure. With the prestigious United States Military Academy to draw tourism, and The Historic Thayer Hotel to support overnight stays for domestic and international travelers, visitors will be able to use their tourism dollars in the town to continue to help the historic town to grow.

Sincerely,

Rick Minicozzi
Managing General Partner,
The Historic Thayer Hotel at West Point

Bear Mountain Bakery & Cafe
307 Main Street
Highland Falls, NY 10928

17 May 2019

To Whom It May Concern,

The Village of Highland Falls is an area that has great potential to be a great economic driver in the Mid-Hudson Valley and a vibrant community for families. Located on the doorstep of West Point, Highland Falls is uniquely positioned to be able to capitalize on the hundreds of thousands of visitors to West Point, Bear Mountain State Park, and Woodbury Commons every year. It is a special area that is ripe for investment to jump to a new level for Orange County, the Hudson Valley Region, and New York State.

A major driver of Highland Falls tourism, The United States Military Academy at West Point (USMA), is unique in that it attracts many families from around our Country and the World. Cadets and professors are specially selected from across the country to attend and teach at USMA in what has become a national treasure. Highland Falls can grow and increase by providing a beautiful hometown atmosphere to pull Military Families involved with USMA off of the military installation and into the town, where their money will be spent on local businesses and not on large national chains that are exempt from taxation by location on the federal Military Reservation of West Point. Currently, many families sequester themselves on West Point because there is not a pleasant atmosphere in town. An investment into Highland Falls would raise the bar and give these Military Families a reason to visit a beautiful destination rightly named "Hometown, U.S.A."

Due to its incredible location, Highland Falls can also provide a picturesque experience to two other very different types of visitors that frequent the area. The highly commercialized and very crowded Woodbury Common Premium Outlets draw one type of visitor, while Bear Mountain State Park draws a very different type of visitor. While visitors to either location would not necessarily visit the other on the same trip, they will overlap with interest in a pleasant, walkable, hometown experience. With Woodbury Common less than 14 miles away and Bear Mountain State Park only 4 miles, Highland Falls is well-placed to draw in visitors from both locations that can increase the value of the experience of all local destinations. It creates a synergy that is exceedingly rare.

Highland Falls is also beginning to draw additional local investment that a grant would shift into high gear. As a 2007 Graduate of West Point, I chose Highland Falls to open a small business instead of accepting an offer to work for a large corporation on Wall Street. I was able to take ownership and connect with real people in a way that I would not be able to working for a large firm. I am one of several West Point Graduates who sees the potential in the area and is willing to invest as we see the area beginning to turn a corner. As the area attracts more attention, a grant would help the area draw people who will be dedicated to improving and investing in their surroundings, not people who will try to squeeze everything out.

We see this grant as an investment into potential for future growth and improvement, not for need. Highland Falls should receive this grant not because it is an area that is in need, but because it will be a wisely spent investment that will enable the area to grow and give back to the rest of the County, Region, and State.

Respectfully,

A. Edward Major, III

A. Edward Major, III

Owner

Bear Mountain Bakery & Cafe



**FORT MONTGOMERY
BATTLE SITE ASSOCIATION
BOX 376
FORT MONTGOMERY, NY 10922-0376**

TELEPHONE & FAX - 845 - 446 - 0400

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GRANT MILLER

Mayor Joseph D'Onofrio
303 Main Street - Village Hall
Highland Falls, NY 10928

May 2019

Mayor D'Onofrio:

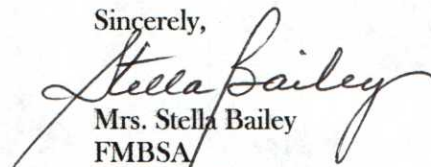
I am writing in support of the Village of Highland Falls' application for a Mid-Hudson Downtown Revitalization Grant.

The Village of Highland Falls in the Town of Highlands is a historic Community Beginning with Revolutionary times up to the present with planning for the 250th Commemoration of the American Revolution already in motion. Tourists from all around the world will continue to visit our area of the Hudson River Valley for its history, diversity and charm.

The plans for the revitalization of the Village's downtown will absolutely impact the entire community and surrounding areas as well. It will not only uplift the commercial section but will also transform the entire community where people live, work and raise their families. This grant will enable the Village to make their downtown space more pleasing and secure as possible and ensure a continuation of its interest and values to the public and local residents.

Your assistance and consideration for all involved is greatly appreciated and sure to be successful.

Sincerely,


Mrs. Stella Bailey
FMBSA
Executive Director



*Discover the historic gateway
to the Hudson and West Point*

**Highlands Chamber
of Commerce**

Call (845) 877-7333 ext. 3 *
for Chamber or member info.

May 14, 2019

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my full support and endorsement of the Village of Highland Falls Mid-Hudson Downtown Revitalization Initiative program application. The Village of Highland Falls supports a vibrant, year-round downtown business district. Just within the last year several new businesses have been established and more are being considered. Highland Falls benefits from an enviable geographic location due to its proximity to the Bear Mountain State Park to its south, the United States Military Academy at West Point to its north, the Fort Montgomery Battle Site, and the Appalachian Trail. Along with its resident population support, the Highland Falls business district benefits from the hundreds of individuals who travel to and through Highland Falls daily for work and the hundreds of thousands of visitors who frequent the area annually.

Despite these advantages, however, the Highland Falls business district needs both public and private investment to revitalize its aging store fronts, fill empty store fronts, upgrade utilities, and improve its aging roadways and infrastructure. In addition, investments to further spur more diversity in business and service offerings to consumers is required. The Village of Highland Falls has recently completed an effort sponsored by the Hudson Valley Greenway Organization studying the feasibility of re-establishing the Highland Falls marina and restoring the former and historic Highland Falls train station. The concept is to provide the Village direct access to the Hudson River for recreation, open space access for parks and gatherings, river transportation, and local area commerce. Access to and from the Hudson River will be via the Village's downtown business district and via a variety of river transportation resources. This effort, in turn, has led to a Consolidated Funding Application award by New York State to develop a Local Waterfront Revitalization Strategy.

The Village of Highland Falls is transforming itself. It is taking proactive steps to realize its potential of being an historic and vibrant Hudson Valley destination full of great opportunities. Support by the Mid-Hudson Downtown Revitalization Initiative would be an invaluable aspect of insuring the success of our efforts.

Sincerely,


James Modlin, President, Town of Highlands Chamber of Commerce

ANDREW SIDAMON-ERISTOFF
Box 181, Highland Falls, NY 10928

May 14, 2019

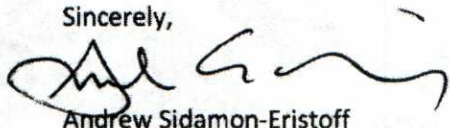
The Hon. Joseph D'Onofrio
303 Main Street – Village Hall
Highland Falls, NY 10928

Dear Mayor D'Onofrio:

As a member of a family that has owned property within the community for over 160 years, I wish to take this opportunity to express my strong support for the Village of Highland Falls' application for a Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) award.

The Village of Highland Falls, in the Town of Highlands and adjacent to the United States Military Academy at West Point, enjoys a rich but largely unexploited historical legacy that pre-dates the Revolutionary War era. The receipt of a DRI award would enable the Village to develop a downtown strategic investment plan and implement key catalytic projects that would both support and accelerate the community's vision for tourism- and heritage-based revitalization.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Sidamon-Eristoff', written over a horizontal line.

Andrew Sidamon-Eristoff

**STATE OF NEW YORK
DIVISION OF MILITARY & NAVAL AFFAIRS
CAMP SMITH TRAINING SITE
CORTLANDT MANOR, NEW YORK 10567-5000**

May 14, 2019

Mayor Joseph D'Onofrio
303 Main Street—Village Hall
Highland Falls, New York 10928

Mayor D'Onofrio,

Thank you for inviting me to the Revitalizing Main Street Meeting. It was great to also see strong representation from the Military Academy and to have the opportunity to discuss mutual interests with those representatives. Being just across the River in Peekskill, we are appreciative of your efforts to improve one of the communities that we think of as our neighbors.

Camp Smith is New York State's only Army National Guard Training Site and provides a year-round training platform for New York Military Forces and a staging base from which those forces respond to civil emergencies. We have 200 personnel on site on any given day and up to 1,200 Soldiers on weekends and during summer training periods. We have limited capability to provide recreational opportunities to our tenants and Soldiers and rely on partnering with the Military Academy to fill this gap. In addition, there are multiple reasons for Soldiers to transit between Camp Smith and West Point to access services we cannot provide. As a result, our National Guard Soldiers travel through Highland Falls frequently.

Given all of these factors, it would be beneficial to have a revitalized Main Street in Highland Falls that would provide opportunities for our Soldiers to access dining and recreational opportunities in an attractive setting. We support your efforts to provide these opportunities. Please include this letter in your application for a Community Revitalization Grant so that this hidden benefit to your submission is taken into consideration.

Best of luck.

Respectfully,



Timothy P Connors
Director, CSTS

Mayor Joseph D'Onofrio
303 Main Street – Village Hall
Highland Falls, NY 10928

Mayor D'Onofrio,

10 May 2019

Please accept and include this letter of recommendation for the Village of Highland Falls to receive the New York State Governor's Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) funding in the coming year.

Historic Highland Falls is nestled at the footsteps of West Point and can take pride in contributing to the distinction the academy rightfully acclaim's as being American's "National Treasure." Through its historic past reaching back to the founding of the nation, Highlands Falls is arguably also one of the state's many treasures that can stimulate and re-energize the core of its downtown from DRI revitalization funds.

Over the years, Highland Falls has strived to keep its downtown vibrate, but limited resources have prevented the retaining and enhancing its unique characteristics. Unquestionably, DRI funding would allow the village to successfully fulfill its current vision and implement proposed downtown strategy plans to transform existing local assets and entice a broader range of new business start-ups into the area. Existing business stability coupled with new and diverse growth in the downtown have the potential to improve the village tax base; spawn employment opportunities for its diverse residents; and enhance existing public space that not only will serve the local community but also the hundreds of thousand visitors that come to visit West Point, and who will patronize the downtown businesses throughout the year.

The many Highland Falls residents I've spoken with are encouraged by the potential that exists to transform our downtown into a vibrant and dynamic place-to-go destination for the American public who visit their "National Treasure."



Joseph N. Colombo, Jr.

18 Hunter Road
Washingtonville, NY 10992
(845) 545-7717

May 16, 2019

To whom it may concern:

Our community, Highland Falls sits just outside the gates of West Point, the nation's oldest continuously active military post and a true national treasure. Like many army towns we have come to rely on our neighbors to bolster our economy and bring with them ideas for their vast travels. Prior to 9-11 the post was open for tourism and the local community. Unfortunately our world has changed and increased security has diminished the free flow between on post personnel, the local community and the great American public. Our town has much to offer, but could use an infusion of assistance to allow us to make necessary improvements which will attract businesses, tourists and our military neighbors. We are poised to make great things happen again.

Any assistance you can provide would make our revitalization efforts a reality.

Thank you so much for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Elaine McConnell, President
Garden Club of the Highlands

May 10, 2019

To whom it may concern,

I fully support the village's grant application to the state for funding to improve the lives of our community and give this lovely Village the improvement that it desperately needs. The history in Highland Falls as the Village that is the gateway to West Point has been a rich one. The riverside location is ideal for visitors and for families to live by.

It is so sad to see some of the properties run down and in disrepair. The waterfront is virtually inaccessible and overgrown. Gone are the days when the community and visitors could enjoy the shores of the Hudson here in Highland Falls.

Please grant this Village the boost it needs to move into not only a place for families to raise children in a safe and clean environment but a destination that visitors, Army personnel and West Point enthusiasts alike can enjoy. With the \$10 million grant, we as residents, as New Yorkers and as US citizens can be proud of our Village.

Thank you,
Lisa Mindich
43 Winhaven Court
Highland Falls, NY 10928

May 12, 2019

To whom it may concern,

I fully support the village's grant application to the state for funding to improve the lives of our community and give this lovely Village the improvement that it desperately needs. The history in Highland Falls as the Village that is the gateway to West Point has been a rich one. The riverside location is ideal for visitors and for families to live by.

It is so sad to see some of the properties run down and in disrepair. The waterfront is virtually inaccessible and overgrown. Gone are the days when the community and visitors could enjoy the shores of the Hudson here in Highland Falls.

Please grant this Village the boost it needs to move into not only a place for families to raise children in a safe and clean environment but a destination that visitors, Army personnel and West Point enthusiasts alike can enjoy. With the \$10 million grant, we as residents, as New Yorkers and as US citizens can be proud of our Village.

Thank you,
Brian Mindich
43 Winhaven Court
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