

Albany County Department of Public Works
449 New Salem Rd.
Voorheesville, NY 12186

RE: Rezoning of Loughlin Street

June 16, 2016

I am the President of the Independent Benevolent Society, the largest of the cemeteries on Fuller Road and I speak on behalf of our 200 members and the 900 plus deceased who are buried on our cemetery going back to 1915 when Fuller Road was a little populated country road. Over the years the area has seen tremendous development and we have co-existed very well with our single family residential neighbors.

The last major development consisted of expanding the SUNY Poly campus and reconstructing Fuller Road had significant negative effects on our cemetery including the loss of our front entrance (we were forced to make an entrance at the rear of our chapel) and several monuments tipping over due to construction vibration. Had we not intervened a median would have been placed on our section of Fuller Road making it very difficult if not impossible for a hearse to turn into the cemetery. In addition, we are concerned about storm water runoff in an area that already has a high water table and the effects of significantly more traffic the proposed project will bring to Fuller Road.

To be clear, we are not against development ...we are against development of the size proposed. We feel 173 apartments is much too large of a project to add to this area. I know that that the much needed tax revenue may drive some decision making, but please do not allow a project of this size encroach on what has been a predominately single family residential neighborhood. Every time there has been development in the area lately the existing property owners have gotten squeezed just a little bit more to the point that this section of Fuller Road is in danger of losing its neighborhood character and identity.

Respectfully,

Lawrence J. Schechter