

Village of Aurora Draft Comprehensive Plan
Comments
November 2021

To: Village of Aurora Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee
From: Tracy Leffingwell, President, Village of Aurora Historical Society
Date: November 4, 2021

Dear Members of the Steering Committee,

Thank you for providing members of the community the ability to make comments regarding the Village of Aurora Draft Comprehensive Plan that is currently under review.

While I have several comments I could share about the multitude of issues that are currently facing the Village and its future, including zoning, clean energy, water issues, and improved communication between stakeholders, I'd like to focus on the future of the Village of Aurora Archives. It was encouraging to see that in the Infrastructure & Transportation: Actions section of the Draft Plan that there was a recommendation to "provide appropriate space to house village records and archives" in a new office/meeting space for the Village. In my opinion the storage of these archives is at a critical juncture. Both the Cayuga Lake National Bank and the Masonic Lodge have generously allowed these items to be stored in their facilities, but this is only a temporary arrangement. A solution needs to be found, whether building a new village hall, expanding the current space or renovating Patrick Tavern further to be able to house the archives safely, and also provide space to access them. I don't know what the best/possible answer is, but I believe a solution must be incorporated into the plan. The collection must be housed in a space that is secure, resistant to fire, climate controlled and accessible to all.

The preservation of the collection and the historical documents is imperative.
Thank you

Subject: Draft Comprehensive Plan

From: "Laura Holland" <lholland@rochester.rr.com>

Date: 11/5/2021, 2:23 PM

To: "'clerk'" <villageclerk@auroranewyork.us>, "'Bonnie Bennett'" <bonnie_apgar_bennett@yahoo.com>

Regarding the Steering Committee as it is described in the Comprehensive Plan under "Steps In The Process".

The paragraph is confusing and contradicts other information that I have received.

The paragraph clearly states that the ZBA **is** represented and that Alexis Boyce is the ZBA representative.

Yet, when I asked the mayor about ZBA representation, I was told that "the ZBA does not have a role in the comp plan".

Yet the ZBA is represented, does have a role, and that person is Alexis Boyce. Which means that everyone on the Steering Committee is either a village board member or village employee.

After stating that the committee includes representatives from all of the village boards, the description goes on to say "as well as community residents." But, if Alexis Boyce represents the ZBA and not community residents, there are no community residents in addition to the board members and village employees. Yet the description of the committee composition makes it clear that there **are** community residents in addition to the board members.

I think that section is confusing and needs rethinking or rewriting to accurately describe the composition of the Steering Committee.

Regarding the IOA GEIS.

My memory may be faulty, but I thought that the GEIS was somehow connected to the Comprehensive Plan.

There is no mention of the IOA GEIS in the Comprehensive Plan and I am surprised because the GEIS is all about planning for the future of the village by the predominant "Stakeholder".

What is the status of the GEIS and why is it not mentioned or included in the Comprehensive Plan?

Also, a question regarding the "Stakeholders:.. What was the criteria for being interviewed as a "Stakeholder"? Could I please see a list of the "Stakeholders".

Thank you,

Subject: TO: The Comprehensive Planning Committee
From: Martin Wisniewski <m.newski45@gmail.com>
Date: 11/5/2021, 4:15 PM
To: villageclerk@auroranewyork.us

To: The Comprehensive Planning Committee

The Comprehensive Plan is decidedly short on plans with regard to our water. It seems to us that this should be the first priority of the village; everyone needs potable water. Is it the village's plan to allow the college to maintain and control the water infrastructure indefinitely? What is the potential cost to the taxpayers? And shouldn't these be known before we start talking about expenditures for a new village hall? With only a small population to share the burden, individual households may be paying a LOT more for their water in the future.

At the meeting on Saturday, we were told that it is too early to address specific questions with regard to the implementation of the plan. (For ex, exploring the possibility of doing something through the Fire Dept.). Will the village residents/voters be allowed a say in the details of its implementation and how so? Will any of the projects, specifically the construction of a village hall, require a referendum? What is the law with regard to this?

Thank you,
Kathleen Button and Marty Wisniewski

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Marty Wisniewski

Subject: History Archives

From: Maralee Gunderson <maraleegunderson@yahoo.com>

Date: 11/5/2021, 4:27 PM

To: villageclerk@auroranewyork.us

Maralee and Tom Gunderson are writing to endorse Ken Larson's letter about the History Archives of Aurora NY.

Sent from my iPad

Subject: Comments on Comprehensive Plan
From: Pat Foser <patty01ann@gmail.com>
Date: 11/5/2021, 4:59 PM
To: Ann <villageclerk@auroranewyork.us>

November 2, 2021

To Bonnie Bennett and members of the and Village Board

In planning the future of the Village it is important to insure the future of climate change that has changed dramatically over the forty one years I owned my home. Hopefully we will utilize the connections we have to ensure our creeks do not dramatically overflow when we experience the very heavy rains like we had last week. It seems like we should have the partnership and help of our politicians regarding this issue. To that end I think it is necessary to include a strong section in our Comprehensive Plan regarding the effects of climate change on our village.

The rains last week indicated a potential future problem with the storage of documents in a small building near the sewage plant. The rainwater from Paines Creek flowed well into the woods, it seems like the future could mean trouble for documents stored so close to a creek. This danger can be alleviated with a Village Hall as we do not have room in the current facility for storage of older documents. We have the opportunity to buy land and build a facility that has room for office space as well as storage. The need is not for more meeting space because history does not support a large turnout on a regular basis, the priority is space for storage, offices space for privacy as well as secure storage for and security of documents which are legal documents providing ongoing history of the village. A village hall has been characterised as a need versus a want. If that were true we would not need to store documents in an area that has water problems and in a very inconvenient area for finding documents related to the history of a property in the village. To call it a need vs a want is breathtaking in its lack of understanding of the history of documents, security and privacy of people who do the everyday labor of making sure our mandates are undertaken in a professional, legal and timely manner and residents can feel comfortable coming into a building to discuss at times personal issues.

Climate change is a very big concern in a village as small as ours with the lake bearing the responsibility for many residents who decided to live here, businesses that have been undertaken here and depend on the lake as the reason people come here and the lake is home to many important species. Climate change is a threat to all of the above and in the 40 plus years I have owned my home not all changes have been positive for the lake and life in our village. The county had a class in Lakeshore Development about 5 years ago. This class was about development of lakeshore protections of the lake. Included in these protections were solutions for blue green algae, creation of riparian areas along the lake, the importance of trees along the lake to leach out all that comes down hill into our lake, that includes chemicals from farming, lawn care chemicals and the increase in lake temperatures as well as protection of fish habitats in shallower waters. I feel we need to make the Lake number one in importance to our well being now as well as 100 years from now and needs to be a very important section in our Comprehensive Plan as well as our Zoning.

Another area that needs to be expanded in this Village is our recognition of historic properties. Our

last inventory of homes to be included in our Historic District was over 40 years ago there are many homes that merit consideration in our historic designation. It is another area that needs a serious look at in our Zoning as it is important when looking at our homes and how they add to the charm of our village.

Thank you

Pat Foser

Subject: Comment

From: karen hindenlang <kahcrt@icloud.com>

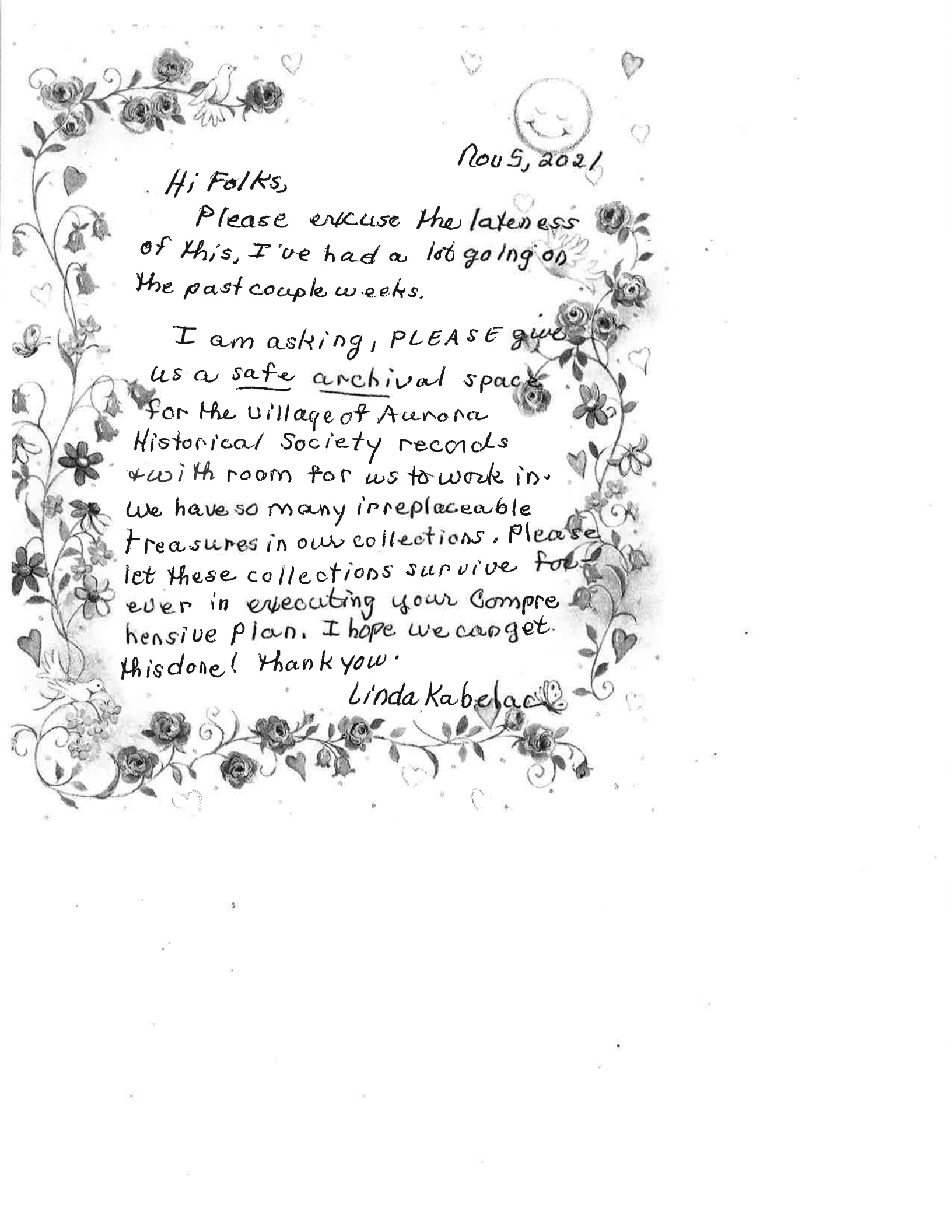
Date: 11/5/2021, 8:10 PM

To: Aurora Village Clerk <VillageClerk@auroranewyork.us>

It's still Friday, so I have one more comment on the Draft Comprehensive Plan:

The GEIS, which I believe the Inns of Aurora was required to undertake, is not referenced in the draft comprehensive plan. The intentions of the developer could have a tremendous impact on any plans the village might attempt. Yet the Environmental Impact Study is ignored. This oversight should be corrected. Thank you.

KAHindenlang
Aurora NY



Nov 5, 2021

Hi Folks,

Please excuse the lateness of this, I've had a lot going on the past couple weeks.

I am asking, PLEASE give us a safe archival space for the Village of Aurora Historical Society records & with room for us to work in. We have so many irreplaceable treasures in our collections. Please let these collections survive forever in executing your Comprehensive Plan. I hope we can get this done! Thank you.

Linda Kabelac