

VILLAGE OF AURORA

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<u>May 28, 2025</u>

Mr. Karl Rindfleisch, Director of Operations

Cayuga County Water and Sewer Authority

7413 County House Road

Auburn, New York 13021

Re: Honoco Road Public Sewer

Genoa (T) and Ledyard (T), Cayuga County

Dear Mr. Rindfleisch:

<u>I/we</u> fully support the Construction of the "<u>CAYUGA LAKE PROTECTION PROJECT</u>" which will Install Low Pressure Sewers along the shoreline of Cayuga Lake in the Towns of Ledyard and Genoa, and transport the collected sewage to the Village of Aurora Wastewater Treatment Plant for processing. About 9 miles of new sewer force mains will be installed in and beside existing roadways, plus about 450 grinder pump stations and electrical services, as the proposed project will serve about # 450 EDUs.

<u>The project includes \$5.0M in upgrades to the Village of Aurora WWTP</u>, to allow treatment of the collected sewage. The low-pressure sewer system would include grinder pump stations generally located at each home along the route, and in some instances one grinder pump station located between several homes. The Village of Aurora and the Cayuga County Water and Sewer Authority recently signed an Amended Intermunicipal Agreement, as of 02/19/2025 in support of this project.

Current existing septic systems on Honoco Road have made it necessary to place a Moratorium on building, with Failing Septic's, Holding Tanks, Etc. <u>Also, we must now consider the impact of the Cayuga Lake T.M.D.L. Clean Water Plan (Total Maximum Daily Load) for Phosphorus (Nitrates)</u>, now finalized by the U.S. EPA and NYS DEC 09/09/2024. This project will not only safeguard New York's Drinking Water Resources, (*over 120,000 NYS Residents receive their Drinking Water from Cayuga Lake daily*) it will greatly aid in the efficient removal of substandard private treatment systems. Once more it will protect and safeguard the New York State Finger

Lakes for generations to come, for clean drinking water resources, recreation, boating, fishing, etc.

The Cayuga County Health Department in 2024 enlisted their strong support of the Cayuga County Water and Sewer Authority's "<u>Cayuga Lake Protection Project (CLPP)</u>", for a public sewer to serve residences on Honoco Road in the Towns of Genoa and Ledyard in Cayuga County.

Please note the majority of the existing septic systems on Honoco Road have been determined to be substandard by the Cayuga County Health Department (04/03/2024). The septic systems are located less than the required distance from Cayuga Lake and, consequently, are likely contributing nutrients to the lake. According to many experts, these excess nutrients are responsible for harmful algal blooms that have been appearing more frequently on Cayuga Lake. The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation has reported in their 2018 Harmful Algal Bloom action plan for Cayuga Lake, that the nutrient contribution from septic systems should be reduced. Installing a public sewer to replace the many substandard septic systems in the area will significantly reduce this contribution.

In closing we reiterate the Cayuga County Health Department's strong support of the C.L.P.P., for a public sewer to serve the Honoco Road area.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration,

James Orman

James Orman Mayor, Village of Aurora mayor@auroranewyork.us