

# BURKE, MIELE & GOLDEN, LLP

40 MATTHEWS STREET  
SUITE 209  
POST OFFICE BOX 216  
GOSHEN, N.Y. 10924  
(845) 294-4080

FAX (845) 294-7673

PATRICK T. BURKE  
ROBERT M. MIELE \*  
RICHARD B. GOLDEN  
MICHAEL K. BURKE  
KELLY M. NAUGHTON \*\*

PHYLLIS A. INGRAM \*\*\*  
ASHLEY N. TORRE \*

ROCKLAND COUNTY OFFICE:

499 ROUTE 304  
NEW CITY NY 10956

PLEASE REPLY TO  
GOSHEN OFFICE

JOSEPH P. MCGLINN (1941-2000)

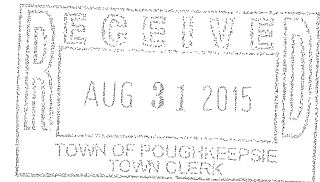
August 31, 2015

\* ADMITTED IN NEW YORK & NEW JERSEY  
\*\* ADMITTED IN NEW YORK & MASSACHUSETTS  
\*\*\* ADMITTED IN NEW YORK & CONNECTICUT

Town Board  
Town of Poughkeepsie  
1 Overocker Road  
Poughkeepsie, New York 12603

Attn: Neil Wilson, Esq.  
Director of Municipal Development

Re: Fairview Fire District Supplemental Comments on  
Draft Scope for Hudson Heritage Project



Dear Supervisor Tancredi and Town Board Members:

Please allow this letter to supplement my August 19, 2015 letter on behalf of the Fairview Fire District and its Board of Fire Commissioners concerning the draft Scope for the Hudson Heritage Project. Below sets forth specific topics and mitigation measures that must be required by the Scope and addressed in the Environmental Impact Statement ("EIS"). Many of these are addressed in the Center for Governmental Research (CGR) report commissioned by the Fire District, and which accompanied my August 19, 2015 letter.

As previously noted, and as required by SEQRA, the Scope must require that the EIS study the cumulative effect of the proposed Hudson Heritage project and other planned projects in the area. As noted in the CGR report, these projects have the potential to bring in an astonishing 2900 new residents to the Fairview Fire District in a relatively short period of time. Indeed, the Scope must, to be an effective guide for the EIS study, require that of those new residents the potential age distribution of that population must be studied, as different Fire District services are impacted depending upon the different age of the residents within the District. The Scope should include a requirement to study the existing demand on fire service, and how the existing demand has increased over the years, as well as the existing calls for service, and the potential increase in demand and calls with the new proposed developments. The Scope must be modified to also require the EIS to study the impact of resorting to mutual aid for responses to calls if sufficient mitigation measures are not otherwise specifically set forth and adopted in the Findings Statement to permit the Fire District adequately to provide fire protection and ambulance services to all of these new residents.

The Scope must also be amended to require the EIS to address the growth inducing and traffic impacts of the Hudson Heritage project, and other pending/proposed projects, as they relate to the frequency of Fire District's service calls and the traffic impacts on responding to such calls, as well as the concomitant impacts on the Fire District's staffing, and on its apparatuses, equipment, supplies and facilities (including increased costs of maintenance). It is essential that there must always be an operational vehicle of each type ready for service. The Scope must also be amended to address the need to renovate/expand – or replace – the existing fire station as a result of the needed increases to the Fire District's personnel, apparatuses, equipment, etc. The financial impact on both the revenue and expense side of the Fire District must also be addressed.

Mitigation measures that must be addressed in the EIS – as required by a modified Scope – must address how to bridge the needs of the Fire District between the time that the Fire District is required to incur the costs for increased services required by the new developments and the time that the District can incorporate new revenues generated by such development.

The Scope must also be amended to require the EIS to address specific mitigation measures necessary to enable the Fire District to increase and retain its volunteer and paid firefighters and staff for all shifts, but especially during the busiest hours of the day (10:00am – 6:00pm). Included within this study of additional staffing must be the associated financial impacts, including retirement, insurance, overtime, leave time, and additional uniforms and gear costs. This study must be based upon maintaining or improving service quality, including acceptable response times for firefighters and ambulance services.

The Scope must also require the EIS to study mitigation measures relative to increasing the equipment inventory of the Fire District, including but not limited to thermal imaging cameras, gas meters and pulse carboxyhemoglobin monitors. The EIS must also consider an accelerated replacement cycle for the Fire District's apparatus due to the certainty of increased wear and tear.

Lastly, in responding to the fiscal impacts to the Fire District from this project, and the other projects identified in the CGR report, the Scope must require the EIS to consider funding alternatives for the Fire District to meet the increased costs caused by the project. Examples may include, but are not limited to, the use of fire district assessment zones, PILOT agreements for exempt property owners, a local law regarding fire alarms aimed at decreasing nuisance alarms, and developer mitigation fees. The Scope must be modified to require the EIS to study and prepare a matrix of mitigation measures that will distribute among the incoming developments the fiscal and other impacts to the Fire District. Less favorable mitigation options that should be considered are billing for EMS services, allowing the Fire Districts to bill for ambulance services, and removing exemptions from Fire District and fire protection district taxes.

Very truly yours,



RICHARD B. GOLDEN