TOWN OF LEWISBORO OFFICE OF THE SUPERVISOR

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TOWN OF LEWISBORO
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PETER H. PARSONS, SUPERVISOR

April 15, 2021

U.S. Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer 322 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand 480 Russell Washington, D.C. 20510

Congressman Sean Patrick Maloney 464 Cannon House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Re: Town of Lewisboro – STAG grant application

Dear Senators Schumer and Gillibrand and Congressman Maloney:

Thank you for providing relief to Lewisboro through the American Rescue Plan and other grant opportunities. This is particularly important to a small town such as ourselves which has been performing a variety of financial gyrations to maintain normal services to our residents while adding COVID-specific services to help vaccinate our population and provide a supervised environment in which our younger children can learn without requiring parents to stay home. The immediate problem on which we need your help concerns the Oakridge Water District.

On March 1, 2021, the Town of Lewisboro received a letter from the Westchester County Health Department stating that the Oakridge Water District had exceeded the maximum contamination level for PFOS. The current acceptable limits are 10 parts per trillion and during the first quarter of 2021, the Oakridge Water District measured readings on average of 14.5 parts per trillion. It should be noted that New York State recently revised the Sanitary Code to lower the acceptable level from 70 parts per trillion to 10 parts per trillion, thus imposing a more rigorous standard to protect residents against these potentially harmful contaminants.

The Oakridge Water District in conjunction with the Town have taken short term measures to become complaint by reducing the number of wells with high PFOS levels used by the System.

However, it is clear that a longer-term solution is essential to maintaining safe drinking water. Granulated Activated Carbon filters to process the water have been recommended as a method to remove these contaminants at an estimated cost of \$1.6 million. A portion of these funds will be used to expand the water plant to accommodate the size of this new carbon filtration system.

This is an urgent need. Oakridge Water District serves a condominium development, including middle income and affordable units. The District also serves adjacent single-family homes, a shopping center and a childcare center. Access to potable drinking water is critical to the well being of our communities and is a right that these Lewisboro residents should be afforded.

The Town of Lewisboro requests that you support this application for Community Project Funding through the EPA to be applied towards this effort and respectfully requests that your offices do the same to ensure the health and prosperity of our mutual constituents. If any of your offices need additional information to support this grant request, please do not hesitate to reach out to me directly.

Yours

Peter Parsons

Supervisor, Town of Lewisboro

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