**Subject:** FW: Annexation Comments

**Attachments:** Jacob Wieder Annexation Comments.docx

From: Jacob Wieder [mailto:jacobmwieder@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2015 10:38 AM

Sent: Friday, June 19, 2015 10:38 AM
To: tmiller@timmillerassociates.com
Subject: Annexation Comments

see attached

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Jacob Wieder 845-492-6868

I would like to make 3 short points and bring out why expanding the boarders of Kiryas Joel the 507 acres as applied, will not only benefit the applicants, but it will benefit all the municipalities involved as well as Orange County and the entire region!

#1. I want to dispel a myth that has been spread around by irresponsible sources who quote only partial statistics. Monroe residents have expressed their concern to me, they said that "all people in KJ are taking advantage of Social Service – extending the boundaries will drain the county's budget". This is a myth that must be dispelled! All of KJ is NOT taking advantage of social programs. While many are eligible for Healthcare like Medicaid due to larger families and not very high incomes, many of them have insurance coverage through their employers and use Medicaid only as secondary payer, but without going into nitty bitty details – I want everyone to know that MANY people in Kiryas Joel work hard, and pay taxes! There are many businesses INSIDE Kiryas Joel, and many businesses OUTSIDE of Kiryas Joel that are operated by KJ residents, WE ALL PAY TAXES AND CONTRIBUTE TO THE ECONOMY! There are many rich people with nice houses and fancy cars – these people Pay taxes and support part of the county's social budget! I want to ask everyone to look at the entire graph! Don't take one slice out of the pie and smear innocent people like that! And please don't use that to mislead naïve innocent people!

#2. I will state a fact here: Kiryas Yoel and its residents "ARE" good neighbors with the surrounding neighborhoods! Town of Monroe and its Residents "are" good neighbors with Kiryas Joel, it's a fact that I've proven time and time again – Only a very small minority of people in Monroe oppose annexation – they are a very small fraction! These are the same people, we recognize them from the 70's, they were youngsters then, we were little kids playing around the lake on quickway road and they would stop and yell dirty Jews to scare us. They are older ladies now, and when we peacefully walk around the millpond lake they stop and yell "walk in your own parks!" We do NOT have our own parks! Most of our other neighbors understand that this is what we want – we want for our kids access to medical care, schools, and parks where they feel safe and their needs are met. It's been a cold winter, I can't tell you how many days my kids freeze at the bus stop and buses don't come! Monroe residents also understand that Kiryas Joel and its residents bring benefits to THEM! We boost your economy! We shop in your stores, we run our own businesses and employ people from your communities in the towns and villages of Monroe, Harriman, central valley, Chester, Goshen, Middletown, (and so on) so many NON KJ residents are employed in Orange county by businesses owned by KJ residents. We also employ many of you INSIDE our village boundaries! Point in case: KJ contributes to the economy of the region on a large scale, expanding KJ will only expand the economy in the area!

#3. In a time when local municipalities are approving zoning and trying to lure the gambling industries to our area, can we all stop for a minute and think of the ramifications of having casinos in the area? Next to casinos come along crime rates, lower Real Estate value, not to mention traffic and other negative environmental impacts, we all know the truth that most of the added jobs will NOT be for local residents, they'll just bring outside people in! By contrast, expanding the borders of Kiryas Joel will have a beautiful positive effect on the area! Kiryas Joel has no crime rate to speak of, no teen pregnancies out of wedlock, no drugs, no homeless, as well as other issues that are a big problem for municipalities with such a concentrated population! By extending the boundaries of Kiryas Joel, the Town, and County will

have even more benefit of KJ"s low crime rate, the local crime rate is partially wiped out by KJ – making Orange count a more desirable place to live!

I will end by saying we are good neighbors and expanding the boarders will only bring more good! The rest is a negative propaganda that has been unsuccessful since the 1970's before the village was incorporated! Biggest proof that I'm right is the fact that the anti- annexation minority fraction has teamed up with the minute fraction of kiryas Joel dissidents!

I ask the elected officials from all branches of government involved in this project, to take the MAJORITY of the population's interest into consideration when making such important decisions and please vote YES for the **507** annexation Petition

Thanks Again!