

UNITED TALMUDICAL ACADEMY OF KIRYAS JOEL, INC.

55 Forest Road
Monroe, New York 10950
(845) 783-5800

June 22, 2015

Board of Trustees of the Village of Kiryas Joel
Board of Trustees of the Town of Monroe
51 Forest Road
Monroe, New York 10950

Re: Statement in Support of Annexation

Gentlemen:

The following is a transcript of the statement on behalf of Annexation to be made by Joseph S. Scarmato, Esq. as attorney for United Talmudical Academy of Kiryas Joel, Inc.:

Introduction

- I am here tonight because of my association with United Talmudical Academy of Kiryas Joel, Inc (UTA).
- I am an attorney who has represented the interests of the UTA and its affiliates for more than 12 years.
- I have personally witnessed the many benefits that the UTA has brought to the Community.

The Organization

- UTA is a religious based educational and charitable organization that provides tuition based education to students and social services to the community in the Village of Kiryas Joel.
- UTA also raises charitable donations to support and organize a variety of social programs for the community such as health centers that would otherwise become the responsibility of municipal or county government.
- UTA's is a stabilizing force within the Village. Its communal approach to addressing community needs builds strong bonds between the residents, thus contributing to a tranquil and law abiding environment and reducing the need for high levels of law enforcement within the Village, a benefit and a savings to the Town.

A Quality Educator

- UTA provides a high quality education for students pre-k through 12th grade
- UTA religious based curriculum instills a healthy respect for law and order

- UTA produces of graduates are morally strong law abiding citizens resulting in lower per capita incidence of crime, violence and drug abuse in the Village of Kiryas Joel than exists in other areas of Orange County.
- UTA has a higher graduation rate and a lower drop-out rate than any surrounding secular school

An Economical Educator

- UTA's educational system is economical with a budget is approximately \$200MM by contrast Monroe-Woodbury School district educates far fewer students but has a budget of over \$200MM.
- UTA over 8,000 students in the Village of Kiryas Joel who would otherwise be enrolled in the Monroe-Woodbury School District.
- UTA's cost per student significantly less than surrounding secular schools due to the fact that it is largely tuition based and subsidized by the generous donations of a Community that values good education.
- UTA's reduces the Town's educational burden and reduces the need to build new facilities and increase School Taxes in the Monroe-Woodbury School District.
- UTAs operations are currently saving the Towns of Monroe & Woodbury the cost of facilities, teachers, administrators and maintenance personnel to educate over 8,000 students annually.

A Valued Employer

- UTA's infrastructure includes more than 15 school and administrative buildings in the Village dedicated to the education of children.
- UTA employs over 1, 500 workers as educators, administrators and maintenance personnel.
- UTA is also the largest employer in the Village of Kiryas Joel, employing workers from both within the Village as well as other areas of Orange County.
- UTA also sponsors the construction of new facilities throughout the Village and is responsible for the creation of hundreds of construction jobs annually.

I whole heartedly urge you to vote YES to approve of the annexation of the proposed parcels into the Village of Kiryas Joel.

Very truly yours,



Joseph S. Scarmato, Esq.
Attorney

JSS/jms