



VILLAGE OF KIRYAS JOEL

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VILLAGE OF KIRYAS JOEL RELEASES SEQRA FINDINGS STATEMENT AND VOTES TO APPROVE ANNEXATION

On Sunday, September 6, 2015 the Village of Kiryas Joel adopted a positive Findings Statement in response to the Final Generic Environmental Impact Statement (FGEIS). The Findings Statement was developed by the Village Board of Trustees consistent with its role and responsibilities as State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) Lead Agency. This marks the final step of the SEQRA process. In a related action, the Kiryas Joel Board of Trustees voted to approve both the 507 and 164 acres annexation petitions.

The process was set into motion nearly two years ago when a group of homeowners in the Town of Monroe petitioned to annex 507 acres from the Town of Monroe to the Village of Kiryas Joel to access services like water, sewer and other amenities that the Town could not provide. Over the ensuing months, the Village and its planning consultant Tim Miller Associates followed the SEQRA process to the letter of the law. They conducted two public scoping sessions and a public hearing and reviewed thousands of written comments in response to potential environmental impacts of the proposed annexation. Throughout the process the Village, acting as Lead Agency, carefully and thoroughly examined the relevant issues and at the conclusion of the SEQRA process, thoughtfully weighed and balanced the reasonably anticipated environmental, social, economic and other essential considerations, including the overall public interest of the community in reaching its decision.

"Now that this long and rigorous process has come to a close, the Village of Kiryas Joel thanks everyone who participated and helped ensure a thorough and adequate review of the potential impacts of annexation," said Ari Felberman, Government Relations Coordinator for the Village of Kiryas Joel. "As designated Lead Agency, the Village carefully considered all comments and believes that it and other governmental agencies will be better informed in addressing future decisions that flow from the annexation in order to serve the best interest of the affected communities."

As has been the practice throughout the SEQRA process, copies of the Findings Statement and annexation resolutions will now be filed in accordance with SEQRA and the Annexation Law and may be viewed online at <http://www.kj-seqra.com>.

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