

3/23/20

Dear Mr. Kovalchik,

I am writing to express my support for the proposed Crossgates Mall expansion. I am a long-time Capital Region resident, and so appreciate the Mall and it's ability to provide shopping and entertainment for my family's benefit.

I also want to share my experience with Crossgates Mall, as a non-profit vendor for the past 8 years. Crossgates Mall has generously offered me a vendor table, between Thanksgiving and Christmas, to allow fundraising for a charitable organization, Operation Gratitude. With this effort, we are able to facilitate purchase and mailing of packages to our military members who are stationed overseas. Over the past 8 seasons, we have been able to raise over \$137,000 for this cause, providing a valuable service to our military heroes. This would not have been possible without the donation of space that Crossgates has provided us. We look forward to more seasons of collaboration.

In closing, I hope that you will grant the requested expansion permits, so that Crossgates can keep providing our community with a valuable place to enjoy, as well as opportunities to continue supporting our non-profit members.

Thank you,

Cindy Keller Marra

Operation Gratitude Fundraiser
518-368-6063