



May 12, 2020

Kenneth Kovalchik
Guilderland Town Planner
P.O. Box 339
Guilderland, NY 12084

Carm Basile
Chief Executive Officer
518-437-6840
carmb@cdta.org

Dear Mr. Kovalchik,

As you know, our team at the Capital District Transportation Authority (CDTA) has worked closely with the Town of Guilderland to create clear guidelines on how to improve traffic and transit near Crossgates Mall. We have made great strides and continue to work with the Town and Pyramid Management Group (PMG) on best practices in this regard.

This work resulted in the creation of a Transit-Oriented Development District (TOD) which includes areas on and around Western Avenue, more specifically, Crossgates Mall. Crossgates is one of the busiest stops in our system and the number one retail destination for transit customers. On an average day, CDTA buses provide transportation for more than 1,000 riders to and from Crossgates. This significantly reduces the number of automobiles and emissions that would be drawn to the area without our services.

CDTA has enjoyed working with Town Officials as well as regional and business leaders to study transit issues in the area and determine best practices for future improvements. This planning and forward thinking by Town Officials helps to coordinate the needs of the community with the desire for responsible future development and safe transit.

We have been invited by PMG to take part in the planning process and to offer suggestions about the infrastructure with an eye toward easing congestion and improving safety. Through this relationship, we are planning for expanded bus stops on the property, pedestrian and bicycle crossings, and additional safety measures. This will be a marked improvement for customers and the community. Through these efforts, the owners have been willing to make improvements – and pay for them – at our request.

I hope you consider this when reviewing this project; do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions.

Cordially,

Carm Basile
Chief Executive Officer

Copy: Chris Desany, CDTA
Ross Farrell, CDTA

Jayme B. Lahut
Chairman
Schenectady County

Michael J. Criscione
Vice Chairman
Albany County

Mark Schaeffer
Secretary
Albany County

David M. Stackrow
Treasurer
Rensselaer County

Georgeanna M. Nugent
Saratoga County

Jaclyn Falotico
Schenectady County

Denise A. Figueroa
Albany County

Patrick M. Lance
Labor Representative

Carm Basile
Chief Executive Officer