



Town of Delaware

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June 24, 2019

At the June 12, 2019 meeting, the following resolution was offered and approved:

RESOLUTION #58- 2019 – IN SUPPORT OF UPGRADING ROUTE 17 IN ORANGE AND SULLIVAN COUNTIES:

Moved by: Councilman: John Gain

Seconded: Councilman: Alfred Steppich

WHEREAS, The Mid-Hudson/Catskills Region is achieving economic and population growth due to its proximity to New York City and other states as well as being home to attractive communities with a high quality of life.

WHEREAS, The Region has an immediate requirement for infrastructure investments to allow economic development to continue and maintain the Region's ability to attract jobs and preserve its quality of life for its citizens.

WHEREAS, In May of 2013, the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) issued a study (The Route 17 Transportation Corridor Study) that recommended a new General Use Third Lane be developed along the Route 17 Corridor and found that "additional transportation capacity is needed to address existing and projected levels of congestion in the corridor, provide for enhanced mobility, and allow for future economic growth in both Sullivan and Orange Counties."

WHEREAS, while the improvements underway at Interchange 131 near Woodbury Common, and the proposed improvements to accommodate LEGOLAND are welcome and necessary, they will not address the existing and worsening traffic issues along the Corridor.

WHEREAS, investments along the Route 17 Corridor are consistent with smart growth principles and the 2011 report issued by the Open Space Institute (Private Lands, Public Benefits) which found that Sullivan County has the greatest percentage of preferred growth area in the Catskills, "which is largely concentrated in the center of the county and coincides with significant, established infrastructure."

WHEREAS, the full conversion of Route 17 to interstate standards (I-86) was previously scheduled to be completed by 2009, but that has not occurred in many of the eastern sections of Route 17. Major upgrades to Route 17 need to be implemented to meet interstate standards

