



# TOWN OF ULYSSES

## COMPREHENSIVE PLAN STEERING COMMITTEE

### Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee Resolution No. 2024-01

#### **A Resolution Recommending the Town Board Amend the Comprehensive Plan Budget to Accommodate an Environmental Impact Statement**

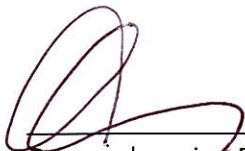
WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee finds the following:

1. Per New York Codes, Rules, and Regulations Title 6, Part 617, the adoption of the Comprehensive Plan is listed as a Type I action which are more likely to require the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) than Unlisted actions; and
2. The State's Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) law states that actions or projects listed as a Type I action carry with it the presumption that they are likely to have a significant adverse impact on the environment and may require an EIS; and
3. New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) SEQR Handbook recommends municipalities utilize the generic EIS and states it is the most appropriate way to analyze the environmental impacts of a comprehensive plan over issuing a negative declaration; and
4. The Consolidated Laws of New York Chapter 62 Article 16 Section 272-A states the Town's comprehensive plan may be accompanied by a generic EIS and no further compliance with SEQR is required for subsequent actions that are in conformance with the conditions and thresholds established for such actions in the generic EIS and its findings; and
5. The NYSDEC SEQR Handbook states agencies that frequently undertake, fund, or approve actions that are essentially similar in nature and effect may find a generic EIS that addresses those repetitive actions may save work [and money] by reducing the need for [numerous] individual EISs or negative declarations; and
6. The Town entered a contract with MRB to provide consulting services for the Comprehensive Plan which included a budget of \$28,000 for Type I SEQR review; and
7. At the request of the Town, MRB provided a quote to conduct an EIS budgeted at an additional \$37,000; and
8. Town Legal and the Town Planner have previously recommended the Town plan and accommodate for an EIS for the comprehensive plan; and

9. Town Legal has further opined that the generic EIS would allow no or limited SEQR review of actions taken in conformance with the comprehensive plan and the thresholds or conditions identified in the generic EIS, thus saving potentially time and money in later review of those actions considered as part of the generic EIS ; and
10. The generic EIS should last the 10-year planning cycle of the comprehensive plan till 2035; and
11. The Town is currently evaluating and planning the 2025 budget; and
12. An additional \$37,000 is not an insignificant number financially for the Town to plan for but would be fiscally conservative compared to conducting additional EISs and SEQR reviews for Town plans and projects over the next 10 years that would be in conformance with the Comprehensive Plan; and
13. The cumulative financial savings for the Town would promote the best long-term interests of the Ulysses community.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN STEERING COMMITTEE RESOLVES THE FOLLOWING:

The Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee hereby recommends the Town Board budget an additional \$37,000 in 2025 for an EIS for the Comprehensive Plan.



Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee Chair

10/2/24

Date

**Ayes:** DiPetta, Klankowski, Klein, Olson, Weaver

**Nays:** Marino

**Absent:** Basilius, Hanson, Schneider, Weatherby

**Abstain:** Cohen