

**From:** Paul DL <deluciap@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 9, 2023 10:57 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Adirondack Park Agency Policy, Procedures & Guidance System

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Christopher Cooper,

After carefully reading the draft policy, I'm in full support of the change.

My name is Paul DeLucia. As founder of Lean2Rescue, I've learned to work effectively within the rules and processes that govern the park, finding them to be pragmatic and effective.

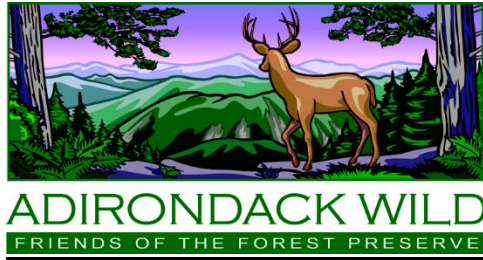
The proposed changes appear to be the result of experience, with better management of redundant and distracting dynamics. I've seen too often, special interest groups using the process to distract from the substances in the pursuit to bog down good initiatives. The new policy clearly leaves all of the check and balance mechanisms fully intact (very important to me), while being only more focussed on the substance through less opportunity for stonewalling through unnecessary redundancy.

You have my full support on this.

And thank you for what you do.

Sincerely,

Paul DeLucia



April 12, 2023

Christopher Cooper, Counsel  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

**Agency 1 and 2, Policy Documents and Public Comment**

Dear Mr. Cooper,

On behalf of Adirondack Wild, we disagree with APA staff proposals to change current policy and procedure in the following ways:

1. Restrict all oral public comment opportunities to one 20-minute period at the close of Agency meetings, eliminating public comment at the start of meetings;
2. Require that written public comment for consideration on all matters unrelated to formal public comment periods is received at least three business days before the APA meets;
3. Eliminate the Agency's current practice of review and consideration of new or amended Agency policy and guidance documents over the course of three Agency meetings.

**Oral Public Comments:** On reviewing the APA's proposed changes, a member of Adirondack Wild wrote to ask: "is it just me, or is the APA putting a squeeze on public comment?" In this case, appearance augments reality. The proposed change lends the appearance that the APA will treat public comments as less welcome and important than previously. In reality, under the proposal members of the public will have significantly fewer opportunities to orally comment than currently.

Agency members expressed the issue best during the March 2023 meeting. Paraphrasing them, four members made the following arguments with which we concur:

- Morning oral comment by the public, properly controlled, is not disruptive to Agency meetings;
- Keeping morning oral public comment conveys proper respect to the public by enabling them to have access to Agency members and staff early in the day's agenda;
- Restricting public comment to the close of Agency meetings conveys a negative message that APA is not there for the public and does not wish to hear public opinion;
- Morning public comment gives me something to think about as I deliberate a matter or issue facing the Park.

Agency meeting minutes going back at least twenty years document that Public Comment has been routinely afforded in the morning prior to committee meetings and at the close of meetings on Friday

afternoon. The proposed policy change eliminates two out of three public comment opportunities. The negative message that eliminating two-thirds of the public's comment opportunities is plain: public comment is far less welcome and far less relevant than previously. That message and reality is hardly consistent with Governor Hochul's executive order on open government and transparency.

Over the decades, Agency chairs have demonstrated the capacity to control public comment so that it does not exceed stated time limits and does not stray into applications decided that day, ex parte. In 35 years of participation in public comment, I have never observed them to interfere with Agency business, nor can I recall Agency members complaining of it. While one Agency member recently claimed such interference exists, neither he nor the staff provided evidence.

Taking the action proposed appears completely unjustified. For the reasons expressed by the Agency's own members, public comment at the beginning of Agency meetings on Thursday and Friday mornings should be retained, as should the Friday afternoon opportunity. In fact, in the current climate APA would be better advised to expand public comment periods from 10 minutes to 15 minutes each, with each comment limited to three minutes as is currently the case.

**Written Comments:** Written comments on topics unrelated to formal comment periods should continue to be received and considered at the discretion of Agency members, not limited to receipt within three business days prior to Agency meetings, which is unduly restrictive.

**Policy Review and Approval:** Review of new or amended Agency policy and guidance documents have been subjected to internal and external review and consideration over the course of three Agency meetings. That should continue. No justification has been given yet for a proposed change that would allow approval of policy and guidance documents in one Agency meeting cycle. Such a change would indicate that the Agency is willing to allow far less time for reflection and consideration of actual or anticipated consequences to the APA and its numerous stakeholders, and improvements which would mitigate such consequences.

A perfect example of the need for a multi-meeting approval cycle is the proposed change in Public Comment policy now before you, which has already generated internal APA debate – for good reasons.

Sincerely,



David Gibson, Managing Partner  
Adirondack Wild: Friends of the Forest Preserve

P.O. Box 9247  
Niskayuna, NY 12309  
Adirondackwild.org  
518-469-4081

Cc: Agency Members and Designees  
Barbara Rice, Executive Director  
Ashley Dougherty, Executive Chamber

To: Adirondack Park Agency Board  
and  
Barbara Rice, Executive Director  
Chris Cooper, Counsel

From: Barbara A. Rottier, Esq.  
Date: April 21, 2023

## **Re: Comments on proposed Amendments to The Agency Policy and Guidance System**

**1) Elimination of the "networking" requirement deliberately and effectively undermines the public's opportunity to participate in discussions on Agency Policies.** *The current policy requires the staff to identify and actually network with stakeholders in the process of developing a policy:*

"In the early stages of policy development, it is critical to establish a network of staff representing the interests of functional programs and external constituents affected by the policy. A network so formed will help ensure that all pertinent issues and points of view are considered during the development, clearance and approval of policy."

The proposed change eliminates that networking requirement. The new language only requires staff to:

".... *establish an understanding* of the interests of functional programs and external constituents affected by the policy. Toward that end, the following major considerations must be taken into account as policy is developed:

- Targeted audience;
- Regional impacts and perspectives;
- Anticipated programmatic effects;
- Potential for controversy;
- Legal implications. "

"Establishing an understanding" in no way requires any networking or direct involvement with stakeholders. And neither do the "major considerations" listed (which are continued from current policy), all of which the staff can choose to address without actually identifying or talking to the stakeholders. Staff and the Board cannot just assume they will be able to identify the answers to these listed "considerations" without networking. Identifying "stakeholders" and their interests, "regional impacts," or "potential for controversy" cannot be reasonably accommodated without advertising the issue at hand and meeting with stakeholders.

**2) The removal of the three meeting cycle for Agency amendments to Policies also effectively undermines the public's opportunity to participate.** I note that members of the general public who are not in the habit of reading every Agency Agenda can easily miss the single "notice" of an important policy amendment with just a one-meeting cycle. For that matter, environmental groups with very limited staff may have the same problem, especially if any of their staff is on vacation or attending to other business. The current 3-meeting review requirement for amendments to policies provides the necessary opportunity for public involvement, which is critical to the thoughtful and effective development of policies that affect the public. *The current policy states that that is exactly the reason for the existing 3-meeting cycle for development and deliberation of amendments to Policies:*

"... public information and involvement [is] to be facilitated by this deliberate cycle of discussion and public debate in multiple open sessions of the Agency Board."

Apparently, this stated purpose is no longer of any importance to the Agency and therefore is proposed to be removed, along with the 3-meeting cycle.

**These two changes, each, greatly reduce opportunity for public participation in important policy matters. Considering Governor Hochul's strong emphasis on "transparency" and "open government", these amendments to the APA Policy & Guidance System are surprising and certainly not conducive to her goals or the goal of open government.**

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara A. Rottier

To: Adirondack Park Agency Board  
and  
Barbara Rice, Executive Director  
Chris Cooper, Counsel

From: Barbara A. Rottier, Esq.  
Date: April 21, 2023

## **Re: Comments on the proposed Agency Public Comment Policy**

### **1). Removing public comments from the beginning of Agency meetings greatly changes the public's opportunity to comment; the opportunity at the end of the meeting is insufficient.**

The proposed language is unclear. What does "*at or near* the end of *each* open meeting of the Agency" mean? When is "*at or near* the end" of the meeting? Can the Agency just decide to allow comments before the last agenda item, rather than after? If so, how can any member of the public plan ahead to make a comment? And what constitutes "the end of *each* open meeting"? If it is a two-day meeting, is it at the end of Thursday and also Friday, or just on Friday?

More important, the end of the meeting is not a fixed time, making it hard for the public to plan to comment. The start of an Agency meeting is an advertised, fixed time, known to all. Generally, it is 9 AM. It is much easier for any member of the public to plan to speak at the beginning of the meeting, at a definite, established time. For those who are employed, it is often easier to take time off for a known period at the beginning of the day. To plan to speak at the end of the meeting could be much more difficult and more time consuming. What time will the meeting end? When would someone have to leave work to get there for an unknown time? Does a member of the public have to sit through the entire meeting to ensure that he/she has the opportunity to speak? This proposed change is unreasonable, and certainly makes it much more difficult for the public to be involved and to comment.

### **2. The Agency should not eliminate the language allowing public comment at the end of the meeting on "matters prohibited for public comment during the initial public comment period."**

Anyone who is present, who has sat silently and patiently through an Agency meeting discussion on a matter of great interest to them, may have some important things to say at the end of the meeting which the Board ought to hear. It could be praise for the depth or thoughtfulness of the discussion. It could be the opposite. The comment could enlighten the Board and staff about how they could improve their review process, or identify an issue previously presented by the commenter but never discussed. The comment could clarify something the Board or staff misunderstood, thereby alerting both to be more careful in the future. There are many reasons why the Board and staff should hear what a member of the

public thinks about a matter that was addressed at the meeting; they should not be shielded from this important avenue of communication.

The "ex parte" communications rules only come into play for an adjudicatory hearing. Those rules can and should be separately stated.

**3. Changes to the section on "written comments" could be greatly improved for clarity and better participation.**

*a.) The language in proposed paragraph B (1) is insufficient to guarantee the public adequate time to respond to the notice. Does this section include matters where notice is required under APA Act Section 809? In that case, those deadlines control, and it should be stated. For all other matters where notice is being given, the policy should guarantee a minimum period of time between the publication of the notice and the comment deadline. Any public notice is useless if the publication of the notice is only a few days prior to the deadline. If the matter is important enough for the public to be notified, then it is important to provide a reasonable period of time to comment. I would suggest:*

"Noticed Public Comment Period

For matters for which a defined public comment period is to be established by the Agency, the publication of that notice must occur at least 14 days prior to the end of the comment period. Written comments will be accepted only if received by the Agency by the close of business on the last day of the noticed public comment period."

*b.) The original Section B (2) should not be removed. Unlike Town law, neighbors are not notified of a project under Section 809 of the Act. Therefore, in most cases, members of the community will not know about a proposed project unless and until they read about it on the published Agency agenda, available at best one week before the meeting. At that point, members of the public will be hard-pressed to get the information they need to determine if comment is warranted. The FOIL law requires the Agency to respond in 5 days to requests for information, but that deadline is readily extended at the behest of the Agency. Assuming information is sent electronically in five days, that leaves only two days to prepare and submit comments. The proposed deadline (in proposed par. B [2]) is three days prior to the meeting. In other words, the 3 day deadline is likely to be impossible to meet, unless, somehow, that member of the public had earlier notice by some other method. This is unacceptable, and basically eliminates opportunity for the public to comment. The policy should retain the original Par. B (2), which allows comments "by noon on the day prior to the meeting."*

Moreover, the new pars. B (1) & (2) are confusing. Par (1) applies to "Noticed Public Comment Period" which seems to be defined as "matters for which a noticed public comment period is held." "*Is held*" is an odd term. "Is established by published notice" is much clearer. Par (2) applies to "matters and issues for which a noticed public comment period has not been

held." Is the public going to know which paragraph applies, especially if he/she learned about the issue from another source? For clarity, and to ensure appropriate time to comment, Par (2) should remain as is, and Par B (1) amended as suggested above.

*c) It is absolutely unacceptable to eliminate all notice and significant opportunity for public comment on draft Unit Management Plans (UMPs) submitted for Agency approval. Agency approval involves legal decisions of great significance that are separate and distinct from the DEC's task of drafting the UMP.*

DEC and APA are legally separate agencies with very different responsibilities with regard to the management of Forest Preserve lands. The Agency is responsible for the classification of state Forest Preserve lands in the Park, and for the drafting and enforcement of compliance with the State Land Master Plan (SLMP). The DEC is responsible for developing and executing the Unit Management Plans. *There is a reason why the legislature divided these responsibilities: it creates an important separation of powers.* DEC, so close to the day to day management of these lands, might have a significantly different view of the Constitutional and SLMP requirements, which requirements can complicate their activities. To avoid that potential conflict, the Legislature gave the Agency the power and responsibility to ensure that the management of State Forest Preserve lands complies with the Constitution and SLMP.

The elimination of public comment opportunity at the point where the Agency must make critical legal findings seems to be predicated upon the idea that all legal and substantive issues are successfully resolved in DEC's process of drafting the UMP. It is true that the Agency and public can participate in the DEC process. *However, it is not true that all legal and substantive issues have been resolved when DEC submits its draft UMP to the Agency. And it does not mean that DEC has agreed with the Agency or the public regarding all of their legal and substantive comments.*

After DEC's State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) process and the public comment period, there are often changes to the draft UMP. In fact, the draft subsequently submitted to the APA for its approval may be (and has in the past been) a significantly different document than the draft for which DEC conducted the SEQRA process.

*Therefore, it is essential that the public have an opportunity to address the specific UMP document now submitted for Agency review, and to address the specific legal issues the Agency must rule upon.* The legal and substantive issues may or may not have been fully examined by DEC. Importantly, the issues may have changed in any amendments to the UMP in response to public comment. The public deserves a chance to comment on this final draft UMP and the legal issues which the Agency, alone, must decide.

*Perhaps the comment process in the original Par. B (3) can be simplified, but it most definitely should not be removed. The process should give the public ample opportunity to address the specific UMP document submitted to the Agency and the issues it presents.*



**In conclusion, for the reasons stated above, the proposed changes for the Public Comment Policy do not improve the public's opportunity to comment, and certainly do not further Governor Hochul's agenda of improved "transparency" and "open government."**

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara A. Rottier

**1) Proposed amendments to the Agency Public Comment Policy severely reduce opportunity for public comment at Agency meetings and on important matters.**



April 21, 2023

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Christopher Cooper  
NYS Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
(Via Electronic Submission)

### RE: APA Agency-1 and Agency-2 Proposed Revisions

Dear Mr. Cooper,

The Adirondack Council would like to thank the Adirondack Park Agency (APA) for moving Agency-1 and Agency-2 policies to a 30-day public comment period. It is particularly important to have the public weigh in on Agency-2 (Agency Public Comment Policy) given its direct impact on public engagement with the Agency.

Below are the Council's comments for Agency-1 and Agency-2 proposed changes:

1. **Agency-1 Policy on Policies:** While some of the changes to this policy are logical and administrative, it is unclear as to why other elements have been removed or altered. Overall, the changes proposed appear to decrease public transparency and engagement. The Council believes that given the current guidance regarding recent court rulings, that opportunities for public engagement and comment should be expanded and encouraged. Even if administrative in nature, the optics regarding the restructuring of any form of public input should be carefully considered and only made if essential in allowing the APA to meet its duties as a public agency. In this instance, optics matter.
  - a. Retain Three-Step Process: The *Development of Agency Policies* process was made more ambiguous on page 5 because it no longer requires a three-step process, nor three Agency meetings of review (two of which review written public and member comment). In addition, under *Policy Approval* on page 7, the policy adds as a note that "the public process...can be done in one or more Board meetings." In years past, the three-step process proved beneficial to the Board, staff and public for fleshing out substantive issues. The three-step process should be retained.
  - b. Development of Agency Policies: On page 6, proposed language has been added for how the Agency will notify the public of ministerial versus non-ministerial changes made to policies. The Council believes that this proposed language is unclear and confusing, particularly the

### Acting Executive Director

Raul J. Aguirre



element of “supporting materials”. The Council asks that public comment opportunities on ministerial policy changes also be posted on the Agency website for ease of public access.

2. **Agency-2 Public Comment Policy:** The Agency’s intent to clarify this policy to eliminate public confusion about comment submission deadlines for oral comments at meetings is commendable. However, other proposed changes within the policy appear to limit overall public engagement and comments.

During the February 17, 2023 oral argument proceeding for the *Matter of The Application of The Lake George Association, The Lake George Waterkeeper, The Town of Hague, and Helena G. Rice v. the NYS Adirondack Park Agency, The Lake George Park Commission, and the NYS Department Of Environmental Conservation*, Judge Muller questioned the purpose of public comments in relation to the public comments submitted to the Agency for the herbicide applications. The Attorney General’s (AG) office responded that the purpose is for the public to be notified of an agency action and for the public to provide public “sentiment.”

We found the latter to be highly inaccurate. Public comments are not solicited to just understand public sentiment; comments serve a real function of collecting legal, scientific, and technical insights into an Agency action that may not otherwise have been contemplated by the Agency. They also provide the public with an accountability method to review agency actions and help build the record for legal action if/when laws and regulations are not complied with by a governmental agency. While we recognize that the language the AG’s office was not used by the APA, nor its staff, it is an important reminder that public comment periods and the comments themselves serve a critical, legal function as consistent with administrative procedure laws and should not be treated less than.

In light of recent legal proceedings, assessing and improving the public comment process with public feedback is warranted at this time.

Our comments on the policy are as follows:

a. Oral Comments:

- i. Timing of Comments: Currently, the Agency holds two public comment opportunities during an Agency meeting, one at the beginning and one at the end. This form and function benefits members of the public because it allows two windows of time for people to attend to provide comment.

It is common for most oral comments to be provided at the beginning of a meeting. The start time provides predictability as to when people need to be present to provide comments. Comments are rarely received at the close of a meeting because the meetings can run long and the timing of when the public comment opportunity will come around is not consistent. Members of the public who come to express their comments that have jobs, families, long drives, etc., are less able to contend with the variability in the schedule. Shifting public comments to only the close of the meeting will decrease public attendance and engagement. That doesn’t benefit the Agency or the public.

We recognize that comments at the start of a meeting sometimes include action items listed on the agenda, which is not permitted, but that is a matter of establishing a brief

verbal reiteration of the parameters for public comment at the beginning of each public comment session and providing for mechanisms where comment is disallowed if someone does not abide by these rules. Shifting the public comment period to the end of the meeting to eliminate this issue, along with the timing concerns raised above, would make the oral comment process less transparent and less accessible, which stands in direct contrast to the intent of the policy.

- ii. In-Person and Remote Comments: We support the incorporation of remote comments into this policy to allow for both forms of oral comments at an Agency meeting.

b. Written Comments:

- i. Consistency for Public Comment Deadlines: Under *Noticed Public Comment Period* it should be clarified by what time the comment period ends, as is done under *Other Matters*, with “close of business” language. This change would make it clear for the public when comments are due, including date and time. The Agency should also define “close of business” (COB). COVID-19 brought us into the era of more remote work, whereby standard work schedules and days have become highly variable for many. For clarity, the Agency should define what COB means (e.g. 5:00pm EST) within the policy.

The Council would support and encourage an “EOD” End of Day definition that would allow comments to be submitted through 11:59 pm EST of the day that the comment period closes.

- ii. Deadline for Agenda Comments: *Other Matters* outlines a process for submitting comments on agenda items that have not gone out for public comment, and asks that those comments be received by the Agency by COB three days prior to an Agency meeting, which are typically held on a Thursday. While the Council appreciates that Agency meeting agendas have recently been published on a more consistent basis, agendas have historically been posted on Fridays, and sometimes after COB hours.

Based on the proposed changes in the policy, and the recognition that an agenda could be posted at any time (i.e., a Friday afternoon), the public would only have one full business day to review the materials. As we know, the posted materials that accompany an agenda can be quite extensive. Expecting the public to review materials and submit written comments in 1-2 business days is unnecessarily burdensome.

In addition, the policy does not mention federal holidays, which often fall on a Monday. This should be addressed in the policy and how it impacts the timeclock for the public to submit comments on an agenda.

If comments need to be submitted at least three days before an Agency meeting, the posting deadline for the agenda and meeting materials for the Agency should be at least seven business days before the meeting. This time clock for the Agency should be reflected in the policy.

- iii. Permit and Enforcement Comments: *Permit Proceedings and Enforcement Cases* was removed. Please clarify if this deletion subjects written comments solely to the general

*Noticed Public Comment Period* guidance or if written comments would not be accepted if they included comments about a permit on the agenda for an upcoming Agency meeting.

- iv. UMP Comments: It is unclear why the *Public Comment Policy for Unit Management Plans* has been removed. Given the consistency for which the Board reviews UMPs at Agency meetings, information on that process is helpful for both Board members and the public to understand. Given the significance of the UMP process and for public comment, this section should not be removed.

Additional Comments – Posted Materials

1. The Council must draw attention to the fact that these policies were not listed for public comment on the APA's website until the week of April 3<sup>rd</sup>.
2. The inclusion of red-lined versions of the proposed policies made review of the changes more accessible and digestible, and we thank the APA for this additional transparency.
3. The Council appreciates the Agency's effort to use gender-neutral language throughout the policies. We also ask that if Staff or Board members have preferred pronouns or gendered/non-gendered salutations they prefer (Mr vs. Mx), that those be reflected in public comment notices or in some manner for the public to use.

Thank you for reviewing our comments on APA Agency-1 and Agency-2 policies. We commend the Agency's work on updating these policies, and we hope that the ability of the public to engage equitably is not compromised in the process.

Sincerely,



Jackie Bowen  
Director of Conservation



Jess Grant  
Conservation Associate



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April 21, 2023

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Christopher E. Cooper, Counsel  
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Ray Brook, NY 12977  
AgencyMeeting.PublicComment@apa.ny.gov

**RE: APA Policy Revisions Proposed for the APA Policy & Guidance System and for the Agency Public Comment Policy**

Dear Mr. Cooper:

Protect the Adirondacks (“PROTECT”) submits this comment letter regarding the proposed revisions to the Adirondack Park Agency (APA) Policy & Guidance System and to Agency Public Comment Policy, in addition to our prior comment letter dated March 14, 2023. We appreciate that the Agency provided a written public comment period before adopting these revisions. We are still concerned that the Agency is reducing the public’s opportunity to offer written and verbal comments.

**APA Policy & Guidance System**

**The draft Agency Policy & Guidance System should be amended to require that the Board consider proposed “non-ministerial” changes at two public meetings.** This will ensure that the Board Members are directing substantive changes to Agency policy by offering instructions and comments at an initial meeting. Two meetings will also ensure that the public has an opportunity to consider the proposed changes and to offer verbal and written comments before the Agency adopts the changes. The two meetings are necessary so that the public can review new proposals and offer meaningful comments.

In addition, the proposed revisions state that public comments can be submitted on the new or revised policies that constitute “non-ministerial changes”, but there is no minimum comment period established, and no minimum amount of time that the new or revised policies must be available to the Board Members and to the public in advance of an Agency meeting. The draft Agency Policy & Guidance System should be

**Protect the Adirondacks**

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amended to require that public notice of proposed new or revised “non-ministerial” policy documents must be published by press release, on the website, and in the Environmental Notice Bulletin at least two weeks prior to the Agency meeting in which the policy will be considered by the Board.

While the proposed revisions state that “purely ministerial changes” will be available through “the Agency meeting agenda”, the Agency meeting materials, which contain the substantive documents for an Agency meeting, are typically not posted to the Agency’s website until the afternoon of the Friday before its meeting. Moreover, as a result of the proposed changes to the Public Comment Policy, the window for submitting written comments will be even shorter than it is currently, as discussed in the next section. The draft Agency Policy & Guidance System should be modified to require the Agency to post all proposed new or revised “ministerial” policy documents to the Agency website at least eight days prior to the scheduled Board meeting. That would provide the public with five business days to review the materials in advance of a Board meeting and be able to provide meaningful input.

These above revisions will give more public notice and help to lessen the other proposed changes that are restricting the public’s opportunity to comment on proposed APA policy.

### **Agency Public Comment Policy**

**Verbal Comments:** Protect the Adirondacks opposes changes that reduce opportunities for public comments to the APA Board. We believe that in-person public comment opportunities at the beginning and end of an Agency meeting are necessary. We believe that the public comment period at the beginning of a meeting is important because it’s a set time for the public to appear and make a statement. Many people who live in the Adirondack Park are a 90-minute or 2-hour drive away. The public comment period at the beginning of an Agency meeting allows people to plan their trip to the APA. The APA meetings end at various times, sometimes ending early, sometimes running late. It’s a burden on the public to try and plan for making a public comment when there is no functional set time for the end of an APA meeting. We believe that a public comment period held at the beginning of an Agency meeting is the best practice in keeping with goals of conducting Agency business in an open and transparent manner. Moving the public comment period to the end of a meeting shortchanges the public and fails the openness and transparency tests.

Lastly, we oppose the cap of 20 minutes for public comments. As regular watchers of Agency meetings we have seldom seen total public comments stretch beyond 10 or 15 minutes. We again request that the Agency eliminate the overall time limit on the length of public comments, so that everyone who wishes to provide verbal comments will have the opportunity to do so.

**Written Comments:** The proposed Public Comment Policy moves up the deadline for providing written comments to the Board from noon the day before the meeting, usually held on a Thursday, to “close of business” three days before the Agency meeting. Given the current practice of holding Agency meetings on a Thursday, this means that the APA would require all written comments by an uncertain time on the Monday before the monthly Agency meeting. The


new policy should be explicit with dates and times. We oppose this change because it shortchanges the public's opportunity to submit written comments.

The difficulty with the new policy is that the APA often does not post the meeting materials for the Agency monthly meetings until the Friday afternoon before the Thursday meeting. While the agenda may be released at an earlier point in time, the agenda is not very helpful to the public. The public needs to review the substance of APA meeting materials to submit comments. We need to review Agency draft permits, draft resolutions, staff analysis, and among other materials that are part of the monthly meeting materials. If the Agency wants to change the date for an earlier submission of public comments, it is only fair that the Agency should also amend its procedures to require posting of all materials to the Agency website at least eight days prior to the scheduled Board meeting to allow the public sufficient time to review, research, and submit written comments on the materials. Otherwise, your policy will require the public to research issues and draft comments over the weekend, which is not practical, is unfair, and is not good public agency openness and transparency practices.

We also request that the Agency amend the proposed Public Comment Policy to provide explicit instructions on how and when written public comments will be disseminated to the Board Members for their consideration. It should be concerning to Board Members that a recent decision issued by State Supreme Court in Warren County struck down a permit authorizing use of an aquatic herbicide in Lake George, and one of the reasons for the Court's decision was that the APA staff "failed to accurately summarize the substance" of public comments and that information given to the APA Board was "one-sided." If there is a clear policy stating that Board Members will have access to public comments directly, in advance of making a decision on a matter, then the Board Members and the public can be assured that the APA Board will not be relying upon inaccurate or "one-sided" staff summaries of public comments. It is important for the public to have confidence that public comments have been received and have been reviewed by APA staff and the Board.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Protect the Adirondacks, please accept our gratitude for the opportunity to share our comments on these proposed policy revisions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Claudia K. Braymer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Claudia Braymer,  
Deputy Director





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Peter Bauer  
**Executive Director**

Claudia K. Braymer, Esq.  
**Deputy Director**

Christopher Amato, Esq.  
**Conservation Director  
and Counsel**

March 14, 2023

Hon. John L. Ernst, Chair  
Board Members  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

**RE: APA Policy Revisions Proposed for the APA Policy & Guidance System and for the Agency Public Comment Policy**

Dear Chair Ernst and APA Board Members:

Protect the Adirondacks (“PROTECT”) submits this comment letter regarding the proposed revisions to the APA Policy & Guidance System and to Agency Public Comment Policy. We find it concerning that these proposed policy revisions were added to the Agency’s agenda for its meeting on March 16, 2023 with little to no public notice and no formal public comment period. The Agency should provide a written public comment period before adopting these revisions. We also find it concerning that the Agency is reducing the opportunity for written and verbal public comments.

**APA Policy & Guidance System**

According to the memorandum to you from the Agency’s counsel, dated March 9, 2023, this policy revision was prepared “[a]t the direction of the Board”. It is unclear what direction the Board provided to staff in preparing the proposed revisions. The Board’s direction should be discussed by the Board at an Agency meeting so that the public understands the basis for these changes.

While we applaud the Agency for intending to develop and adopt new or revised policies “in a public process”, the proposed revisions to the APA Policy & Guidance System are reducing the opportunities for public review of, and input on, Agency policy adoption. The proposed revisions remove the three-step process for adopting new or revised policies, and

**Protect the Adirondacks**

PO Box 48, North Creek, NY 12853 518.251.2700

[www.protectadks.org](http://www.protectadks.org) [info@protectadks.org](mailto:info@protectadks.org)

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replace that process with a vague and discretionary process for public review and comment. Instead of requiring a minimum of three meetings, the Agency may adopt new or revised policies at a single Agency meeting.

In addition, the proposed revisions imply that public comments can be submitted on the new or revised policies, but there is no minimum comment period established, no public notice requirement, and no minimum amount of time that the new or revised policies must be available to the Board Members and to the public in advance of an Agency meeting.

The Agency's "Government Transparency Initiative Plan" dated October 20, 2021 states that the Agency "[r]outinely posts all programmatic and meeting materials one week ahead of the monthly Agency Board meeting". However, the agenda and materials for an upcoming Thursday meeting are typically not posted to the Agency's website until the afternoon on Friday before the meeting. That means that the public, pursuant to the current Public Comment Policy, has only two and half business days (by noon on the day before the meeting) to review and submit a written comment on a new or revised Agency policy. Pursuant to the proposed changes to the Public Comment Policy, the window for submitting written comments will be even shorter, as discussed in the next section.

The draft Agency Policy & Guidance System should be modified to require the Agency to post all proposed new or revised policy documents to the Agency website at least eight days prior to the scheduled Board meeting. That would provide the public with five business days to review the materials in advance of a Board meeting and be able to provide meaningful input.

Moreover, the draft Agency Policy & Guidance System should also be amended to state that public notice of the proposed new or revised policy will be published in the Environmental Notice Bulletin at least one week prior to the Agency meeting in which the policy will be considered for action.

These two revisions are critical given that the changes to the Agency Public Comment Policy, discussed below, will require that written comments be provided to the Agency even earlier than what is required under the current policy. It is unfair to the public, and weakens the Agency's purported goal of transparency, if new policies can be added to the agenda without formal public notice, with only one business day for submitting written comments, and no opportunity for providing verbal comments.

### **Agency Public Comment Policy**

According to the memorandum to you from the Agency's counsel, dated March 9, 2023, this policy revision was prepared "[a]t the direction of the Board Chair". It is unclear what direction the Chair provided to staff in preparing the proposed revisions. The Chair's direction should be discussed by the Board at an Agency meeting so that the public understands the basis for these changes.

## Verbal Comments

The proposed changes include eliminating the public comment period at the beginning of Agency meetings. Since the Agency is proposing to move the public comment period to the end of the meeting, after all of the Agency business has been completed, there is no need for an overall time limit (proposed to be 20 minutes) on the length of public comment provided to the Agency. This will ensure that everyone who has made the effort to appear in person and virtually will be afforded the opportunity to use their three minutes to address the Board. We note that there is no similar time cap placed on comments made by Board members or staff at the end of the meeting, when sometimes Board members give lengthy remarks, often of their latest outdoor adventure, which do not relate to Agency business. We believe that Board members and staff should be limited in their general comments at the end of the meeting to the same time limits placed upon the public.

Additionally, we believe it is unfair to cap public comments at 20 minutes. If a member of the public has traveled to Ray Brook, which can be a considerable distance for some people, with the intention of making a public comment, they should be afforded that opportunity if they are present.

Moving the comment period to the end of the meeting eliminates the ability of the public to comment on matters before the Agency – such as new or revised policies – that have not been the subject of a noticed public comment period. The Agency should provide a means for the public to offer verbal comments to the Board, *prior to the Board taking action*, on matters that have not been the subject of a noticed public comment period. Not every member of the public has the time or means to submit an electronic comment.

## Written Comments

We support the proposal to accept written comments only during the open public comment period for “matters for which a noticed public comment period is held”. We also support the proposal to accept written comments only as part of the official record of the proceeding for matters that are the subject of an adjudicatory hearing. The policy should be revised to reflect how those written comments will be disseminated to the Board Members for your deliberations in those matters.

We are not opposed to the proposal to move up the deadline for providing written comments to the Board from noon the day before the meeting to “close of business” three days before the Agency meeting. However, that proposal must be coupled with a change in policy that requires the Agency to post all materials to the Agency website at least eight days prior to the scheduled Board meeting. The additional time will give the public a fair opportunity to review and comment on the materials that are not part of a notice public comment period or an adjudicatory hearing. Otherwise, according to current Agency practice of posting materials online late on Friday afternoon, the public would be required to review all of the materials, conduct extensive legal and policy research, and prepare written comments over the weekend and on one business

day. That is an unfair burden to place on the public, especially when it can be remedied by simply having the materials posted online by the Agency earlier.

Furthermore, since public comments will be provided to the Agency three days in advance of the meeting, the policy should state clearly how those public comments will be disseminated to the Board Members in advance of the meeting so that you can review them and give them meaningful consideration.

Finally, the policy should clarify what is meant by “close of business three business day” [sic] (e.g., if the meeting is Thursday, is the deadline the preceding Friday or presumably Monday, and is it 4:00pm, 5:00pm, 6:00pm, 11:59pm?), or if the policy will not be “rigidly applied”, as the current policy states.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Protect the Adirondacks, please accept our gratitude for the opportunity to share our comments on these proposed policy revisions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Claudia K. Braymer".

Claudia Braymer,  
Deputy Director

To the Members and Designees  
Adirondack Park Agency

## **Comments regarding change in Public Comment Policy and Policy on Policies**

Friends,

This letter is written from former Members and Chairmen and Chairwoman to give some historical context as you consider changing what is in our view a very basic underpinning to the work of the Agency—the importance of public input and support for the work you do. Keeping the door open through public comment provides the public ways to let off steam and the knowledge that they will be heard face-to-face. Having been where you are we appreciate and thank you for your efforts.

Trust in the process is critical and was missing decades ago until the Agency adopted a formal process to allow the public opportunities to participate and see others participating in the process. It has been said often that the Agency does not conduct public meetings but rather meetings in public; whichever, the goal remains that the public sees and knows there is public participation in the process. Thus the change in the policy to replace “Public” with “Agency” may seem small and technical but misses the larger point that the Agency is working in the public interest. Please consider the value of public support for your work.

The limits in the policy proposal read like public comments are a bother to be pushed off to a time when people have one foot out the door or are otherwise beginning to think of the next event. No presenter wants to be the last one before the break.

Several public issues and comments on them are more appropriate for the fresh minds at the beginning of the meeting while attendance is at its maximum. Recognizing a departing staff member or the work of other organizations supporting the Agency are good examples. Strikingly, this change would also eliminate the right of the public to comment on changes in policy, as opposed to permits or enforcement matters. (These last two topics have always been off limits for comments prior to action and the proposal would make no change. We agree.) Public comment would be meaningless if it had to follow the action of the Agency at the end of the day. There were certainly challenging moments in the 20 years of our experience with the existing policy but we managed and got through the business without great interruption.

The second change proposed to the Policy on Policies likewise ignores the historical basis for the development of the overall policies by the Agency. Until that adoption, there was no common process for the creation of policies or even the difference between policies, practices and regulations. We surveyed practices in place at other public bodies from local boards of education to state agencies. Agency counsel at the time, who had a background at DEC, modeled our policy for multiple readings on these other sources. The three reading process made sense then, worked well and encouraged deliberate consideration of these important matters. Treating policy as something that can be changed with less consideration may leave the public with a sense that the change is being done on a whim.

Last, our counsel reminded us as we adopted each separate policy that the “Legal Effect” statement at the end was critical. Each policy --which stands by itself-- needs a reminder that each is not intended to be applied rigidly (which if it were, would subject the proposal to a much more cumbersome SAPA process). The Agency and the public should be reminded each time a formal policy is adopted that it is not a rigid declaration. We know that folks inside the Agency appreciate the difference but these

policies are written for outsiders and need to be understood and supported by them.

Thank you for the opportunity to address this important topic.

Respectfully,

Dick Lefebvre  
Jim Townsend  
Lani Ulrich  
Ross Whaley

**From:** JEFFREY A LEVITT <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 10, 2023 1:19 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Dear Mr. Cooper:

1. The draft APA Public Comment Policy should only be revised for a new comment deadline by Monday at 5PM before the APA's monthly meeting if it includes a requirement that the APA releases its agenda two Mondays before its monthly meeting and posts all meeting materials to the APA website two Wednesdays prior to the scheduled Board meeting.
2. The draft APA Public Comment Policy should include a section that details the process for how comments are delivered to the Board and to document that they were read in advance of the meeting.
3. The draft APA Public Comment Policy should not be changed to remove the public comment period at the beginning of the APA meeting. This gives the public, who often travel a great distance, with certainty for making a comment.
4. The draft APA Policy & Guidance System should be amended to require that the Board consider proposed "non-ministerial" changes at two public meetings before any action is taken to adopt a new policy.
5. The draft APA Policy & Guidance System should state that public notice of proposed new or revised non-ministerial policy changes must be published by press release, on the Agency website, and in the Environmental Notice Bulletin at least two weeks prior to the APA meeting in which the policy will be considered by the Board.
6. The draft APA Policy & Guidance System should be modified to require the APA to post all proposed new or revised "ministerial" policy changes to the APA website at least eight days prior to the scheduled Board meeting.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

JEFFREY A LEVITT <laborerman@yahoo.com>  
175 WHITEHALL ROAD  
Albany, NY 12209

**From:** ann c wait wait <anie818t@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 9, 2023 12:51 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** NEW AGENCY PROPOSALS

You don't often get email from anie818t@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Paul Schafer will roll over in his grave if the new proposals are adopted! Ann Wait

**ACW**



**From:** elizabeth wait <lizzywait@outlook.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 20, 2023 7:55 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public comment at APA meetings

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**ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.**

Dear Mr. Cooper,

This is the Adirondack Park! It is like no other place on the planet. Transparency in the APA is vital to the park's long-term integrity, and always has been paramount to the long-term health of its natural resources and people. Please have the public comment period 15 minutes at the beginning of each meeting and 15 minutes at the end. Also please keep the 3-meeting review for agency pol[cies]. I think you have great responsibility in your role on the APA board. I appreciate all your effort. People are stressed and busy these days; they need time to look at issues. Please do not restrict the public comment to three days prior to the meeting. Natural resource protection basically started in this country inside the blue line. Please respect that legacy and let it guide you. The champions of the Adirondacks, the people who are remembered and respected by many, are the folks who fostered inclusion in the decision making, and left us with the incomparable park we have today.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Wait  
14 Elizabeth Lane  
Saratoga Springs N.Y.  
12822

**From:** Kim Meusel <kmmeusel@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 21, 2023 2:37 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Agency 1 and Agency 2 public comment

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I tried to submit on your website and got an error message- your site is not working

It is not in the public's best interest to eliminate the public comment period at the beginning of APA meetings.

Allowing 6 or 7 citizens to speak for 3 minutes a piece should not be a "distraction" to you and your job. In fact it should help you to have more informed discussions and do a better job for the whole park.

Leaving the comments to the end of your meetings makes it very difficult for the public to plan on a specific time to speak. More importantly, it leaves out a key component that should be advising your conversations and considerations.

I listened in to the APA board meeting when this topic was discussed.

One woman on the board expressed concern that she wanted the people to know the APA works for them too, not just industry and businesses. Unfortunately, eliminating public comments at the beginning of meetings does not send this message.

Another man on the board said that although the board is full of very intelligent people, they can't know everything. He also said that some public comments have changed his decision on things or would have changed his decision on things if he had heard them before voting.

Your own board members are citing the importance of hearing public comments and that the timing of hearing these comments is crucial.

This board can not possibly have clear insight into citizens lives from every corner of the park. You need to hear from the public and make it easy for them to speak to you.

Public comment periods should be kept as is with additional time given at the end of monthly meetings if the board is not able to hear from all concerned citizens. John Ernst suggested this at the March meeting and I agree with him.

In addition, there needs to be clear instructions for in person speaking and calling in.

When I phoned into the March meeting, I also listened and watched on my computer so I knew when I might be called upon. When I went to speak the echo was terribly loud and concerning. I was afraid to turn off my cell phone because that's how I was told to connect to the meeting.

Clear written instructions (including muting one or another device when phoning) would help avoid these problems.

Thank you for your work and hearing me out on this topic.

**From:** jenniferortiz@optonline.net  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 20, 2023 10:07 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

You don't often get email from jenniferortiz@optonline.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Dear Mr. Cooper:

1. The draft APA Public Comment Policy should only be revised for a new comment deadline by Monday at 5PM before the APA's monthly meeting if it includes a requirement that the APA releases its agenda two Mondays before its monthly meeting and posts all meeting materials to the APA website two Wednesdays prior to the scheduled Board meeting.
2. The draft APA Public Comment Policy should include a section that details the process for how comments are delivered to the Board and to document that they were read in advance of the meeting.

I have, in the past, spent entire weekends writing out comments to various proposals and to think that those comments were not read or didn't get to the folks they were intended for blows my mind.

I've worked with people located all over the world, and sharing documents can be as easy as creating a shareable box/dropbox/google drive folder and then using app like Slack to notify members of the board when the folder has been updated. (I typically respond to the Slack thread so people know I got it—then I go and read the file—so I can use my response as a reminder to myself that I am up to date on the latest files.)

If people still aren't reading the docs, you can use something like SharePoint to track user actions. Turn on Auditing Views in the document library and you can prove who read it and who didn't.

3. When I attend an APA meeting, I need to take off the day from work *merely to get to Raybrook, because the meetings are weekdays*. Why would you make it even more difficult for me to comment at the meeting? If I can only comment at the end of the meeting, then I will probably need to take off the afternoon as well, just so I don't miss the comment period.

Therefore, the draft APA Public Comment Policy should not be changed to remove the public comment period at the beginning of the APA meeting. Also, in reading through Agency 2 – Public Comment Policy, it says:

"The Agency will provide approximately 20 minutes for public comment at or near the end of each open meeting of the Agency." It goes on to describe how people sign up for it. "Each commenter will be allowed up to 3 minutes to comment. No commenter may cede or yield their time to another commenter. Time for comments and/or for each commenter may be modified at the discretion of the Board Chair *depending on the number of commenters*."

In the "[Board Revised Agency 2-Public Comment Policy DRAFT - track changes](#)" you can see how "**modified**" was originally the word "**reduced**".

**From:** Martin Manjak <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 10, 2023 9:12 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Dear Mr. Cooper:

The proposed changes to the APA's practice of allowing and accepting public oral and written comments on matters that affect the largest public space in America would severely hamper the ability of the public to provide informed, thoughtful and diverse input to the agency.. Since the APA is a publicly funded agency, efforts to restrict public participation run counter to the purpose of the agency and best practices governing transparency and openness in government entities. What possible reason does the APA have for making it more difficult for stakeholders to participate in its deliberations? The rationale must meet an extremely high bar to offset the reduction in public input on policies and practices that impact that public. It's difficult to imagine a reason that would meet that test. Therefore, I hope you will reconsider these changes that frankly resemble the methods of operation more commonly found in authoritarian regimes.

1. The draft APA Public Comment Policy should only be revised for a new comment deadline by Monday at 5PM before the APA's monthly meeting if it includes a requirement that the APA releases its agenda two Mondays before its monthly meeting and posts all meeting materials to the APA website two Wednesdays prior to the scheduled Board meeting.
2. The draft APA Public Comment Policy should include a section that details the process for how comments are delivered to the Board and to document that they were read in advance of the meeting.
3. The draft APA Public Comment Policy should not be changed to remove the public comment period at the beginning of the APA meeting. This gives the public, who often travel a great distance, with certainty for making a comment.
4. The draft APA Policy & Guidance System should be amended to require that the Board consider proposed "non-ministerial" changes at two public meetings before any action is taken to adopt a new policy.
5. The draft APA Policy & Guidance System should state that public notice of proposed new or revised non-ministerial policy changes must be published by press release, on the Agency website, and in the Environmental Notice Bulletin at least two weeks prior to the APA meeting in which the policy will be considered by the Board.
6. The draft APA Policy & Guidance System should be modified to require the APA to post all proposed new or revised "ministerial" policy changes to the APA website at least eight days prior to the scheduled Board meeting.

Thank you very much.

**From:** Dave Myers <blackdogmyers@sbcglobal.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 9, 2023 1:01 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Comments to the APA on the Proposed Revisions to the APA Policy & Guidance System and the Agency Public Comment Policy

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Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99

Ray Brook, NY 12977  
April 8, 2023

Dear Mr. Cooper:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Proposed Revisions to the APA Policy & Guidance System and the Agency Public Comment Policy

I urge you not to adopt the proposed draft revisions because they undermine the opportunity for citizens to have input. I would appreciate your implementing the following to preserve robust citizen input:

1. If you are going to require new comments by a deadline of Monday 5 PM before the APA's monthly meeting, then the draft APA Public Comment Policy should require that meeting agenda be published at least a week earlier, two Mondays before the monthly meeting.
2. We understand that comments are not always read by all Board members. The draft APA Public Comment Policy should state how comments are delivered to Board members, and should provide a procedure to ensure that comments are read.
3. Per current practices, the draft APA Public Comment Policy should continue to provide for comments to be entertained at the beginning of the monthly meeting. Often, presenters travel several hours and an end of meeting comment period with limited time is not fair to them for their return trip to be late in the day, or for them not to have an opportunity to comment.
4. Please amend the draft APA Policy & Guidance System to require that the Board consider any proposed "non-ministerial" changes at two public meetings before any new policy is voted on/adopted.
5. In a similar vein, the draft APA Policy & Guidance System should state/require that public notice of any proposed new or revised non-ministerial policy changes be published by press release, on the Agency website, and in the Environmental Notice Bulletin at least two weeks before the APA meeting in which the proposed policy will be considered by the Board.
6. The draft APA Policy & Guidance System should state/require the APA to post all proposed new or revised "ministerial" policy changes to the APA website at least eight days prior to the scheduled Board meeting where the changes are to be considered.

Thank you for considering these park resident friendly comment policies and practices.

Respectfully,

David Myers and Monica Bills  
Blue Mountain Lake, NY 12812

**From:** Paul Schulman <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 4:06 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Dear Mr. Cooper:

I live in Utica and am a frequent visitor to the Adirondack Park. This park is held in trust for the people of NY and of the nation and the people should have a say in its governance. I oppose any policy that limits the people's ability to express their concern about the park. this park doesn't belong to the park agency. It belongs to the people.

Sincerely,

Paul Schulman <fphs@sunypoly.edu>  
2225 Douglas Cresc.  
Utica, NY 13501

**From:** Judson Witham <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 9:01 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Dear Mr. Cooper:

The Audacity of You Socialist Bastards is unbelievable . Limiting the People in expressive rights about Your Communistic Agency is completely Unlawful, Unconstitutional and Completely Stinks.

The APA should be defunded, DEC Shuttered and each and everyone of You Fascists should be prosecuted.  
Adirondacks Lives Matter

Thank you very much.

Judson Witham  
Glens Falls , Lake George

Sincerely,

Judson Witham <notjuris@gmail.com>  
15215 Aiken  
Wake Forest, NC 27587

---

**From:** Helen K Chase <hkchase190@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 20, 2023 2:03:46 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment <AgencyMeeting.PublicComment@apa.ny.gov>  
**Subject:** Christopher Cooper, Agency Counsel - public comment

You don't often get email from hkchase190@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

I am a director of the organization Adirondack Wild: Friends of the Forest Preserve. The APA provides opportunity for the public to participate and to have a chance to remark on the business before the Agency. It is extremely important that the Agency keep the business open and transparent to the public. When everyone is informed and able to communicate openly, the public will know that they are appreciated and welcomed in sharing their suggestions, views, and knowledge. Very importantly, it is the public who have an historical memory and can express their concerns about discrepancies and inaccuracies. The APA has not been keeping up on its own historical memories and needs to depend more on the people who live in the Park, and who care intimately about the place where they live.

Please retain the morning public comment opportunity and respect the public's right to be heard about issues affecting the Adirondack Park.

In fact, please expand the public comment opportunities from 10 minutes to 15 minutes at the start and close of each APA meeting.

I personally want to remind the APA that it is its responsibility to protect the natural resources to the benefit of all New Yorkers.

There are some concerns that crop up in the last minutes prior to the APA meetings; it is important to allow written public comments to be received and considered anytime (at the discretion of the Agency – it is always at the discretion of the Agency) and not be restricted to three days prior to Agency meetings.

Fast-tracking approvals of APA policy documents in a one-meeting cycle effectively



eliminates public input. The APA is meant to be an agency open to the public and open to public input. The public lives in the Park; the public needs to be heard about issues regarding the Park; The Agency needs to hear what the public is saying.

Thank you for reading this request to listen to the public in whatever ways you can and in however amount is possible. The APA was created to work with the public that lives within the Park to protect the natural resources.

--

*Helen K. Chase*

*P.O. Box 205*

*190 Chase Road*

*Shokan, NY 12481-0205*

*(845) 657-2107 (h)*

*(845) 901-3352 (c)*

*<[hkchase190@gmail.com](mailto:hkchase190@gmail.com)>*

**From:** Barbara A Paye <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 5:00 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Dear Mr. Cooper:

1. The draft APA Public Comment Policy should only be revised for a new comment deadline by Monday at 5PM before the APA's monthly meeting if it includes a requirement that the APA releases its agenda two Mondays before its monthly meeting and posts all meeting materials to the APA website two Wednesdays prior to the scheduled Board meeting.
2. The draft APA Public Comment Policy should include a section that details the process for how comments are delivered to the Board and to document that they were read in advance of the meeting.
3. The draft APA Public Comment Policy should not be changed to remove the public comment period at the beginning of the APA meeting. This gives the public, who often travel a great distance, with certainty for making a comment.
4. The draft APA Policy & Guidance System should be amended to require that the Board consider proposed "non-ministerial" changes at two public meetings before any action is taken to adopt a new policy.
5. The draft APA Policy & Guidance System should state that public notice of proposed new or revised non-ministerial policy changes must be published by press release, on the Agency website, and in the Environmental Notice Bulletin at least two weeks prior to the APA meeting in which the policy will be considered by the Board.
6. The draft APA Policy & Guidance System should be modified to require the APA to post all proposed new or revised "ministerial" policy changes to the APA website at least eight days prior to the scheduled Board meeting.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Barbara A Paye <76bobbibrad@gmail.com>  
298 Corlear Drive  
Willsboro, NY 12996

---

**From:** dtiedemann <dteaglelake@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 20, 2023 5:20:23 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment <AgencyMeeting.PublicComment@apa.ny.gov>  
**Cc:** Keith Scherer <scherer@nysenate.gov>; Matt MacDonald Assembly Aid to Simpson <macdonm@nyassembly.gov>  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Mr. Cooper,

Please accept the following email as my submission of comment on the proposed "APA public comment policies changes.

My comments are attached here as both in line text and as a PDF document.

Please acknowledge receipt of this email.

Respectfully , Dianne Tiedemann

April 20, 2023

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

AgencyMeeting.PublicComment@apa.ny.gov

Dear APA Executive Director Barbara Rice and Chair John Ernst

Normally I would start a dialog or offer commentary from a basis of diplomacy, as so many public or political groups and individuals usually do, out of respect for the process, but also sometimes out of fear of possible negative consequences or repercussions in doing so otherwise. I would also seek to review the document or subject at hand in order to, as best as possible, be able to speak from a basis of knowledge and or understanding, and then offer comments of support, dissent, and or suggestions for revision. HOWEVER, in having just read the Adirondack Explorer's March 23, 2023 article, titled, "APA's Proposed Comment Policy Changes Draw Criticism" and the Agency-Public Comment Policy Revision Draft with the proposed changes, the current action to change the process of "public comment" by this Agency does not remotely come close to meriting the more diplomatic approach! The Agency's intended action rises to the level of being despicable! I

am stunned and equally HORRIFIED by the mere thought that the APA could have voted on, and then passed, these EGREGIOUS changes to Public Comment WITHOUT ANY PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY, as initially suggested by APA Counsel, if it were not for the fact that a commissioner or two found them confusing! The thought that something could similarly happen related to another action is equally as sobering and scary! The confusion lies in that YOU don't see what's wrong with what you want to change, why you want to change it, and that ultimately, in the end, you may ignore the public anyway, as the APA Counsel had originally suggested to you, that you move ahead without any public comments sought! How can the public feel welcome or involved in the process of public governance with this Agency?

Is it the plan of the APA to further restrict the public from having their due oversight and say in how this agency governs, and then transforms, the guidelines for the Park's operation, preservation and protection? If "meetings go off schedule" it's because there are things that need to be stated, brought to everyone's attention and discussed for a resolution, even if it results in agreement to disagree. The process must be allowed to the fullest extent to be able to come to a final conclusion, based on all input. As Commissioner Hall states, "it's very hard to go back and correct something", and "... because we don't think of everything."

It was interesting to read that Commissioner Benita Law-Diao expressed concern that if, "I (and maybe others on staff) don't understand it (the language in the policy change)?", "how does the public?" Understand it????!! What's to understand???!! Talk about irony. You are making an autonomous move to further limit the very people you're supposed to represent and serve, regardless of the language used!

What's "confusing" isn't what you as a group (or maybe it's just a few) propose to change, sadly there's no shock here, or even whether others could readily understand it. Rather, it falls right in line with the history of how some of you have conducted business as an agency, especially as of late! Recent newspaper articles have made it clear that even while you are wrestling with controversial topics, that you are not particularly interested in what the public has to say on these topics.

That any of you have a want to "streamline the monthly meeting", ie. your workload and interaction with the public, by reducing public comment rather than buckling down and working with and for all interested parties, speaks volumes to the audacity of the changes you propose!!!! If you're having difficulties managing the volume of public commentary you receive, you need to get your act together to better process and address them, not limit them! There must be an "in-house" basis for the reasons that you're receiving so many of them! As stated by Chairman Ernst, "...he had never seen a meeting disrupted with an inordinate number of commentators". If there are more comments than time allotted, expand or restore the meeting length, as suggested by Commissioner Art Lussi.

On topics or issues brought before the APA, not all parties will agree on what needs to be done or what needs to be left alone, but to diminish the say of anyone is to strengthen further the autonomous dominance by the APA. That's the clear "understood" message

here! As for one commissioner's expressed wish for more "professional" conduct by your organization in allocating a specific time for comments, wherever it happens to be, and for them to be "taken ... seriously and to heart", then I can agree. As this commissioner points out, the APA used to have two day meetings and he hoped the Agency would go back to that." There used to be more opportunity and a willingness to work together, even if it ended with a respectful "agree to disagree" outcome. The apparent shrinking of meetings from two days down to one day, and now limiting comment opportunities even further to just a total of 20 minutes for all people for all comments within one day, speaks again to the Agency's interest in becoming less burdened by public involvement and subsequently making themselves ever more autonomous!

I implore those of you who will listen, do NOT be asleep at the wheel or have a fear of speaking up with a difference of opinion that can actually be implemented to stop the insanity that is evermore taking place inside your agency! I am thankful for those who have dared to state their favoring the public's interest. To those individuals I say look carefully at who has made these proposed Public Comment changes, and why! Do you as an individual member of the Agency really stand behind these changes to the detriment of the public you serve?! If not, then stand up, be on the right side of history, for the sake of the public, and the sake of the future of the Park!

When all is said and done with this public comment period, it is assumed that the Agency will make changes to this current redline draft policy document that reflects the public's comments. Will a revised redline draft number two then be presented back to the public incorporating the comments you have chosen to respond to, and the changes you have decided to make? Or will the APA's Counsel once again suggest the Board vote on the "final" changes without further public comment?

In closing, I am asking for confirmation from you, your representative or your staff, of the receipt of this email/written comment. I also request that you will similarly inform me, and the rest of the public, as to where all received and similarly acknowledged and or submitted comments will be stored, how they can be accessed or retrieved for viewing by all interested parties (including those within your Agency), and that they will be kept in their complete form, context and content, the same as they were received. In the past I have seen submitted written comments edited down to the point of being "taken out of context" when being formally responded to within an APA document. I and all others should not have to struggle or even wonder whether our comments were received, retained, reviewed or responded to, or if they remain fully intact in both the review and the response, if any, they received. Will you as leaders in this agency respect the wishes of the public and their right to comment? The Adirondack Park belongs to ALL New Yorkers. We need more public comment opportunities, not less.

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne Tiedemann

CC

APA board members:

Mr. Arthur Lussi

Mr. Daniel Wilt

Ms. Zoë Smith

Mr. Mark Hall

Mr. Kenneth Lynch

Benita Law-Diao

Senator Dan Stec via email to Keith Scherer, his Legislative Aid

Assemblymember Matt Simpson via email to Matt McDonald, his Legislative Aid

---

**From:** Greg Wait <skidog17@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 20, 2023 10:37:18 AM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment <AgencyMeeting.PublicComment@apa.ny.gov>  
**Subject:** Public comment at APA meetings

You don't often get email from skidog17@msn.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

**From:** Greg Wait  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 20, 2023 10:16 AM  
**To:** PublicComment@apa.ny.gov <PublicComment@apa.ny.gov>  
**Subject:** Public comment at APA meetings

Dear Mr. Cooper,

Please keep the public comment period the same as it is right now. We have the most beautiful natural resource in the eastern U.S.

A major reason for this is because the public has had input. To take away from the amount of public input would and could only serve one purpose; to degrade the integrity of the decision making process. I don't even understand why you are considering shortening the time period for folks to speak, and how policy is decided. ( I mean, I have read your reasoning, but with lots of respect for the board members, it's not valid). This is the Adirondack Park! It is like no other place on the planet. Transparency in the APA is vital to the park's long term integrity, and health of its natural resources.

Please.

Thank you for all your work,

Gregory Wait

475 county route 10

Corinth N.Y. 12822

518-796-7697

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From: C.J. Randall <info@protectadks.org>  
Sent: Monday, April 17, 2023 9:12:46 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)  
To: apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
Subject: Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Dear Christopher:

The current APA project review process suggests either regulatory capture or training issues at APA. It is not best practice for agency staff to present projects on behalf of applicants, as I've witnessed at meetings just within the last year.

Please consider any changes to formal policy / agency management based on ethical standards (ICMA, APA, etc).

Sincerely,

C.J. Randall <cj.randall@icloud.com>  
309 W Green St  
Ithaca, NY 14850



**From:**  
**To:**  
**Subject:**  
**Date:**

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**From:** Naj Wikoff <naj.wikoff@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 18, 2023 9:56:41 AM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment <AgencyMeeting.PublicComment@apa.ny.gov>  
**Subject:** public comments

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I disagree that the time for public comments should be shortened or shifted away from the beginning of a meeting as I believe that it is critical to hear a diversity of voices before addressing an issue.

Thank you

Naj

Naj Wikoff  
PO Box 568  
Keene Valley, NY 12943  
agencymeeting.publiccomment@apa.ny.gov

---

From: noreply-pc@apa.ny.gov <noreply-pc@apa.ny.gov>  
Sent: Monday, April 17, 2023 2:15:27 AM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)  
To: apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
Cc: Colin@headlappictures.com  
Subject: APA Project Agency-1\_2 Public Comments

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\*\*\*\*\* PLEASE NOTE \*\*\*\*\*

The following public comment was made with your email address as the source.  
If this is an error, please contact the New York State Adirondack Park Agency at 518-891-4050 or by sending an email to AgencyMeeting.PublicComment@apa.ny.gov.  
Please copy "Agency-1\_2, Colin Powers, Colin@headlappictures.com" into your message for our reference.

\*\*\*\*\*

Attn: Christopher Cooper  
Comments from: Colin Powers  
Email from: Colin@headlappictures.com  
Address: 12993  
Re: Agency Project Agency-1\_2, Agency 1 and Agency 2

My Comments:

Do not change the public comment policy. It will inhibit comment and public discourse.

---

From: noreply-pc@apa.ny.gov <noreply-pc@apa.ny.gov>  
Sent: Friday, April 14, 2023 11:34:51 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)  
To: apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
Cc: johnwblaser@gmail.com  
Subject: APA Project Agency-1\_2 Public Comments

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\*\*\*\*\* PLEASE NOTE \*\*\*\*\*

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If this is an error, please contact the New York State Adirondack Park Agency at 518-891-4050 or by sending an email to AgencyMeeting.PublicComment@apa.ny.gov.  
Please copy "Agency-1\_2, John W Blaser, johnwblaser@gmail.com" into your message for our reference.

\*\*\*\*\*

Attn: Christopher Cooper  
Comments from: John W Blaser  
Email from: johnwblaser@gmail.com  
Address: 69 Maplewood Drive Brewster NY 10509  
Re: Agency Project Agency-1\_2, Agency 1 and Agency 2

My Comments:

I am writing to object to the elimination of public comments at the beginning of meetings. It is imperative that the public have the opportunity to comment at the beginning of the meeting in order to make it easier and more convenient for the public to provide their comments on the agenda items, policies and concerns.

---

From: noreply-pc@apa.ny.gov <noreply-pc@apa.ny.gov>  
Sent: Friday, April 14, 2023 5:32:24 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)  
To: apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
Cc: lldesant3@gmail.com  
Subject: APA Project Agency-1\_2 Public Comments

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\*\*\*\*\* PLEASE NOTE \*\*\*\*\*

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If this is an error, please contact the New York State Adirondack Park Agency at 518-891-4050 or by sending an email to AgencyMeeting.PublicComment@apa.ny.gov.  
Please copy "Agency-1\_2, Lorna DeSantis, Lldesant3@gmail.com" into your message for our reference.

\*\*\*\*\*

Attn: Christopher Cooper  
Comments from: Lorna DeSantis  
Email from: Lldesant3@gmail.com  
Address:  
Re: Agency Project Agency-1\_2, Agency 1 and Agency 2

My Comments:

Do not eliminate public comment at the beginning of meetings. In an era of apathy and distrust of government this is a bad look for the agency.

---

**From:** Amy Garrahan <amygarrahan@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 13, 2023 8:54 PM  
**To:** McKeever, Keith P (APA) <Keith.McKeever@apa.ny.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: APA Public Comment

---

Hi Keith,  
Thanks. I cleared my cache on computer but still still get the 404. I then cleared my iPad (chrome) and got a 403 code. I have pasted a snip of the form and my comments below. Are you able to accept this as is? If not, can I fax? I appreciate any help you can provide.  
Regards,  
Amy

To submit your comments for this APA project, fill in the **required fields** and press "Submit My Comments." Your comments will be sent to AgencyMeeting.PublicComment@apa.ny.gov. A copy of your comments will be sent to the email address you provide.

Applicant/Project Title:  
Agency 1 and Agency 2  
APA Project ID:  
Agency-1\_2  
APA contact:  
Christopher Cooper  
APA email address for this project:  
AgencyMeeting.PublicComment@apa.ny.gov

**My name:** (required)  
Amy Treistman enter your full name

**My email:** (required)  
amygarrahan@yahoo.com a copy of your comments will be sent to this email

**My address:** (optional)  
96 Ruby Mountain View Drive street  
North River city  
NY state  
12856 postal code

I am writing to express my strong dissent to the proposed changes to the public comment policy! While change is needed for clarity and consistency, the draft goes further by also limiting voices of concerned citizens.

You are a public agency. The public should be integral to your process. To do this, a consistent time for public comment is essential. Moving comments to the end of the meeting means that the public comment time could be at any time over two days --with timing only available when the agenda is posted.

This is a great advantage for commenters who are being paid to be there, like lawyers representing business interests as they can adjust their schedule (and bill) for that time.

It is harder for REGULAR CITIZENS, whose concerns you are also supposed to be representing. Regular folks like me need to ask for time off from work in order to speak. Most workers can't just take off time whenever they want, but need to request it well in advance. Some commenters may need to budget for the drive to Ray Brook. Others may have to get to a library or other public location to insure adequate bandwidth to connect. Still others may need to make child or elder care arrangements in advance. Rather than being inclusive of folks from all walks of life, your policy discriminates against those with a low socioeconomic status in favor of those who have the means and ability to be there at anytime.

This policy is an affront to the democratic process by making it harder for folks to be active participants in this civic process. Please don't limit the voices of people who care about the Adirondacks!

**SUGGESTION:**

--Keep the comment period at the start of the meeting, but with clarity of policy and a set limit of 20-30 minutes. My school board reads a short statement before public comment opens: 1. Comments are limited to two [three] minutes. They have a timer that rings to indicate time is up. You could have it visible on camera so those commenting virtually would be aware of the time. 2. Priority is given to individuals who would like to express alternative opinions to earlier commenters. (When individuals register, they could indicate the topic and their position on the topic, if needed.)  
--Keep the time at the end of the meeting, based on the agenda, in case people were not able to speak at the beginning.

On Wednesday, April 12, 2023, 9:55 AM, McKeever, Keith P (APA) <Keith.McKeever@apa.ny.gov> wrote:

**From:**  
**To:**  
**Subject:**  
**Date:**

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From: noreply-pc@apa.ny.gov <noreply-pc@apa.ny.gov>  
Sent: Friday, April 14, 2023 8:24:51 AM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)  
To: apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
Cc: aggiepell@gmail.com  
Subject: APA Project Agency-1\_2 Public Comments

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If this is an error, please contact the New York State Adirondack Park Agency at 518-891-4050 or by sending an email to AgencyMeeting.PublicComment@apa.ny.gov.  
Please copy "Agency-1\_2, Mary Agnes Pelletieri, aggiepell@gmail.com" into your message for our reference.

\*\*\*\*\*

Attn: Christopher Cooper  
Comments from: Mary Agnes Pelletieri  
Email from: aggiepell@gmail.com  
Address: 97 Old Military road Saranac Lake, NY 12983  
Re: Agency Project Agency-1\_2, Agency 1 and Agency 2

My Comments:

Public comment is essential to governing. It is easy to look at the public comment period at the beginning of the meeting as time saving but truthful I am sure there are many small ways to save time elsewhere. The APA staff and Board are there to serve the public. A difficult task but one they agreed to do. Perhaps rethinking how the entire monthly meetings are organized is in order. I notice on the APA website for contacting the office it states please call or mail us. No email address for personnel. A little outdated. It does refer to Facebook and Twitter but for correspondence, email is pretty common. Keep public comment at the beginning and end. First and foremost, serve the public. Also would be helpful if this was listed as Public Comment not Agency 1 /2 ....

**From:**  
**To:**  
**Subject:**  
**Date:**

---

**From:** Jean Naples <Jean.Naples.12162828@p2a.co>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 13, 2023 8:05:11 AM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment <AgencyMeeting.PublicComment@apa.ny.gov>  
**Subject:** Please provide equitable and accessible public comment opportunities

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**ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.**

Dear Agency Counsel Christopher Cooper,

I am writing as a New York physician and public health/environmental protection advocate who is submitting my recommendations concerning the fact that the Adirondack Park Agency (APA), recently proposed draft amendments to their Public Comment Policy to the APA board. The policy is intended to guide public feedback on Agency actions and operations in advance of and/or during monthly meetings.

I am now very concerned because if approved as drafted, these changes will constrain public engagement and disallow a critical legal function for public guidance concerning the management of the Adirondack Park, within our state government. These proposed changes to the policy recommend a reduction in public comment opportunities, and a restriction in submitting all public comments until the end of the meeting, which is harder for the public to participate and submit their recommendations for Adirondack Park management.

The APA board amendments will also impose deadlines on the time and scope for the public submission of recommendations for Adirondack Park management but with no deadlines for the Agency, reduce the time in which written comments on agenda items are accepted in advance of Agency meetings, and will direct the removal of text relating to written comments for Forest Preserve Unit Management Plans (UMPs).

I strongly urge the Adirondack park agency to please provide equitable and accessible public comment opportunities to assure that New Yorkers can continue to provide guidance to allow open and equal management of our Adirondack State Park.

The public currently has multiple opportunities to offer oral or written comments on decisions before the agency or on any subject they choose. Public comment opportunities are necessary to provide the APA board with key facts and perspectives that help them in their deliberations, ensuring that the APA is serving the interests of all New Yorkers.

The recently proposed draft amendments to the Public Comment Policy to the APA board is intended to guide public feedback on Agency actions and operations in advance of and/or during monthly meetings. If approved as drafted, these changes will constrain public engagement and a critical legal function within our state government and the Adirondack Park. I urge the APA to please retain oral public comment opportunities at the beginning of the meeting as well as at the end, allowing for two windows of time for flexibility and engagement from the public. I strongly support the incorporation of remote comments to allow for both in-person and virtual comments at Agency meetings and I recommend that the APA please add language that requires the Agency to post meeting agendas and materials at least a week in advance of the Agency meeting date so that the public has sufficient time to review

and provide written comments.

To encourage total transparency at Agency meetings, I very much encourage the APA to please openly state that the written public comment for posted agency materials should be submitted no less than two (2) full business days prior to the Agency meeting to allow for more robust and transparent public review and comment and I recommend that the APA please clarify at what time (e.g., close of business) written public comments are due under Noticed Public Comment Period and please completely restore text regarding written comments for Unit Management Plan (UMP) to conform with the APA's State Land Master Plan.

I strongly urge the Adirondack park agency to please provide equitable and accessible public comment opportunities to assure that New Yorkers can continue to provide guidance to allow open and equal management of our Adirondack State Park. It is crucial to remember that the Adirondack Park belongs to all New York residents and to provide the needed guidance to assure full protection for our New York Adirondack Park, New York residents require more and not less opportunities to submit public comments.

Sincerely,  
Jean Marie Naples, MD-Ph.D

Regards,  
Jean Naples  
26 Montebello Commons Dr  
Ramapo, NY 10901



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From: Kimberly Hoover <info@protectadks.org>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2023 1:18:51 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)  
To: apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
Subject: Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Dear Mr. Cooper:

I have been involved in submitting comments on the Upper Saranac Marina project on Lower Fish Creek Pond. I have been so proud to be a New Yorker and see firsthand how professional and involved the APA members have been. We live in a state that has more public parkland than all the national parks put together which is amazing! That's why I was so surprised and disappointed that it appears the APA is trying to stifle public input. I can't believe all the members support this and I believe the chair can easily remind the public that any comments cannot relate to actual decisions pending that day.

In addition:

1. The draft APA Public Comment Policy should only be revised for a new comment deadline by Monday at 5PM before the APA's monthly meeting if it includes a requirement that the APA releases its agenda two Mondays before its monthly meeting and posts all meeting materials to the APA website two Wednesdays prior to the scheduled Board meeting.
2. The draft APA Public Comment Policy should include a section that details the process for how comments are delivered to the Board and to document that they were read in advance of the meeting.
3. The draft APA Public Comment Policy should not be changed to remove the public comment period at the beginning of the APA meeting. This gives the public, who often travel a great distance, with certainty for making a comment.
4. The draft APA Policy & Guidance System should be amended to require that the Board consider proposed "non-ministerial" changes at two public meetings before any action is taken to adopt a new policy.
5. The draft APA Policy & Guidance System should state that public notice of proposed new or revised non-ministerial policy changes must be published by press release, on the Agency website, and in the Environmental Notice Bulletin at least two weeks prior to the APA meeting in which the policy will be considered by the Board.
6. The draft APA Policy & Guidance System should be modified to require the APA to post all proposed new or

revised “ministerial” policy changes to the APA website at least eight days prior to the scheduled Board meeting.

Thank you very much for your time and effort on making NYS a better place to live.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Hoover <kim@hooverarchitecture.com>  
229/230 LaJeunesse Rd.  
Saranace Lake, NY 12983

---

**From:** Ralph Cossa <ralph@pacforum.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 3:24:35 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment <AgencyMeeting.PublicComment@apa.ny.gov>  
**Subject:** public comments

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TO: Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

The public should be allowed to comment at the beginning of each APA Meeting and APA Board Members SHOULD BE REQUIRED TO RESPOND TO THEIR QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ralph Cossa  
74 Old Ice House Road  
Woodgate, NY 13494



Executive Director  
Gerald W. Delaney  
326 Downs Road  
Cadyville, NY 12918  
518-569-7800  
[gdelaneylgrb@gmail.com](mailto:gdelaneylgrb@gmail.com)

Chair  
Brian McDonnell  
363 State Route 86  
Paul Smiths, NY 12970  
518-891-1176  
[adkmcdonnell@gmail.com](mailto:adkmcdonnell@gmail.com)

Vice Chair  
Carrie Tuttle  
405B Columbian RD  
Cranberry Lake, NY 12927  
315-778-8312  
[ctuttle@danc.org](mailto:ctuttle@danc.org)

To: Christopher Cooper

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Agency 1 and Agency 2.

On Agency 1 Policy and Guidance the Local Government Review Board offers the following comments. As offered at the March APA meeting it was unclear when a comment period would be initiated or who would put out these proposed changes out for public comment. Further, it was unclear if a public comment period would begin before being brought to the Board.

Your comments at the March meeting Mr. Copper, did add some clarity. My recollection was that you stated there are times State rule or regulation changes may require changes to APA Documents. This would seem to be an Administrative action that would be required of the APA. Administrative staff would put these changes out to public comment prior to bringing it to the Board at an Agency meeting. The Local Government Review Board would be supportive of this scenario.

On Policy and Guidance that directly affects the public, the Local Government Review Board position is that these changes are presented to the APA Board for review, then, by vote of the full APA Board go out to Public Comment. This scenario would create a minimum of 2 meetings for changes to Policy and Guidance that affect the Public. The other benefit would be raised awareness of these changes through reporting by the Press.

The Agency Policy and Guidance should be clearly written, so a member of the Public can determine how the Policy is being used, when can Administrative staff implement a comment period, and when public comment would be initiated by the APA Board.

On Agency 2 Public Comment. The Local Government Review Board position is that the current Public comment document written in 2009 does not need to be changed. By observation it worked well for many years. We believe that the Policy worked well until the Pandemic, when after a brief pause in Agency meetings, they went fully remote. Pre-pandemic the Public comment parameters were clearly explained prior to starting the comment period. They were consistently enforced to the best of the ability of Staff and the Chair. The Local Government Review Board believes that the Pandemic played a role in the issues you are now facing. Especially as you try and incorporate remote comments at your meetings. We also believe that clearly stating the rules prior to any public comment period at a meeting and enforcing the rules to the best of the APA's ability would be beneficial to all.

Respectively Submitted,

Gerald Delaney

**From:**  
**To:**  
**Subject:**  
**Date:**

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**From:** Teague-Bonham <patteag@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 30, 2023 3:20:49 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment <AgencyMeeting.PublicComment@apa.ny.gov>  
**Subject:** APA Public Comment Policy

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"The purpose of this policy is to encourage public comment in a fair, consistent, and informative transparent manner."

If the above is the stated purpose of the public comment period, moving the comment period to the end of the meeting will discourage public comments. Since the APA is a NY State agency, we citizens pay to support it, so please listen to us. Having attended meetings in person and virtually, I agree with Chairman Ernst that the comments made at the beginning of the meeting are not disruptive. Setting a reasonable time limit is fine. To APA staff/members who may consider the public comment period inefficient and/or disruptive, please consider why you are there in the first place and what your mandate is.

Thank You,

Patrick Teague  
North River, NY

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**From:** Privitera, John <JPrivitera@woh.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 29, 2023 11:47:13 AM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment <AgencyMeeting.PublicComment@apa.ny.gov>  
**Subject:** April 2023 meeting/public comment policy.

You don't often get email from jprivitera@woh.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Dear Sir or Madam:

What will be the policy at the next meeting, in April, 2023? And, if the proposed policy change is made, what is the “end” of the meeting? When will the public know what the end is? Does the new policy mean at the end of the second day of meetings, which varies? Does this mean that the public has to attend the entire second day of meetings and wait until the uncertain end?

Thanks.

John

**John Privitera | Whiteman Osterman & Hanna LLP**

One Commerce Plaza | Albany | New York | 12260  
| o | 518.487.7699 | f | 518.487.7777 | Mobile | 518.669.3209  
| e | [JPrivitera@woh.com](mailto:JPrivitera@woh.com) | w | [www.woh.com](http://www.woh.com)

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**From:** Robert J Godlewski <rgodlews@nycap.rr.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 29, 2023 10:18:58 AM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment <AgencyMeeting.PublicComment@apa.ny.gov>  
**Subject:** Priveledge of The Floor

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*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Not sure who came up with this idea but it is the worst thing you could do. It is bad enough that your main office is way up north which restricts a lot of people from make comments on your projects in person. It would make more sense that you move your office to the capital district where it is more convenient for the public. Ever since the APA was created over 50 years ago the residents who live in the Blue Line have never trusted the APA! This types of administrative manipulating increase that mistrust.

Like all agency's or government bodies you should be encouraging public comment on all issues.

For the record I am dead against anything that restricts the public input into the process.

Be Safe

Bob G.

**From:** Barbara Reardon <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 4:10 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Dear Mr. Cooper:

1. The draft APA Public Comment Policy should only be revised for a new comment deadline by Monday at 5PM before the APA's monthly meeting if it includes a requirement that the APA releases its agenda two Mondays before its monthly meeting and posts all meeting materials to the APA website two Wednesdays prior to the scheduled Board meeting.
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4. The draft APA Policy & Guidance System should be amended to require that the Board consider proposed "non-ministerial" changes at two public meetings before any action is taken to adopt a new policy.
5. The draft APA Policy & Guidance System should state that public notice of proposed new or revised non-ministerial policy changes must be published by press release, on the Agency website, and in the Environmental Notice Bulletin at least two weeks prior to the APA meeting in which the policy will be considered by the Board.
6. The draft APA Policy & Guidance System should be modified to require the APA to post all proposed new or revised "ministerial" policy changes to the APA website at least eight days prior to the scheduled Board meeting.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Barbara Reardon <breardon32.@gmail.comp>  
5 Riverside Drive , Apt. 610  
Binghamton, New York 13905



**From:** Alan Hasselwander <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 10:52 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Alan Hasselwander <alan@hasselw.co>  
4 Harvey Road  
North River, NY 12856

**From:** Anatoly Leshkevich <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 9:36 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

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Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Anatoly Leshkevich <Aleshkevich26@gmail.com>  
12950 state route 28  
Woodgate, NY 13494

**From:** Ann E Woodward <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 5:35 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Ann E Woodward <ann.woodward@aol.com>  
55 West 14th Street, Apt 15A  
New York, NY 10011

**From:** Anthony Ferraro <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 10, 2023 6:43 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Anthony Ferraro <toekneef@gmail.com>  
11 sandalwood dr  
South Burlington, VT 05403

**From:** Bonnie Vicki <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 11:25 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Bonnie Vicki <bonnie.denman@gmail.com>  
536 Igerna Rd  
North Creek, NY 12853

**From:** Bruce Krug <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 9:37 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Bruce Krug <krugvale@frontiernet.net>  
2771 West Road  
Constableville, NY 13325

**From:** Carl Jenner <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 1:48 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Carl Jenner <cjenner@frontiernet.net>  
135 Fisher Rd  
Gloversville, NY 12078

**From:** Carmen Druke <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 10:46 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

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Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Carmen Druke <cbdruke@gmail.com>  
8137 Capron Road  
Woodgate, NY 13494



**From:** Carol and Paul Auer <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 11:50 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Dear Mr. Cooper:

OPEN TRANSPARENT COMMUNICATION WITH THE UBLIC SHOULD NEVER BE COMPROMISED!!!

WE SPEND OUR SUMMERS IN THE PARK AND WANT TO CONTINUE TO HAVE A VOICE IN ITS MANAGEMENT.

1. The draft APA Public Comment Policy should only be revised for a new comment deadline by Monday at 5PM before the APA's monthly meeting if it includes a requirement that the APA releases its agenda two Mondays before its monthly meeting and posts all meeting materials to the APA website two Wednesdays prior to the scheduled Board meeting.
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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Carol and Paul Auer <auer732@gmail.com>  
6 Millbrook Ter  
New Paltz, New York 12561

**From:** Carolyn A Cyr <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 10:22 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Carolyn A Cyr <cpw3cyr@gmail.com>  
165 Combs Rd  
Warrensburg, NY 12885

**From:** Charles Clusen <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 11:19 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

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P.O. Box 99  
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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Charles Clusen <cmclusen@gmail.com>  
796 13th Lake Rd  
North River, NY 12856

**From:** Charles Hagelgans <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 10, 2023 12:55 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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5. The draft APA Policy & Guidance System should state that public notice of proposed new or revised non-ministerial policy changes must be published by press release, on the Agency website, and in the Environmental Notice Bulletin at least two weeks prior to the APA meeting in which the policy will be considered by the Board.
6. The draft APA Policy & Guidance System should be modified to require the APA to post all proposed new or revised "ministerial" policy changes to the APA website at least eight days prior to the scheduled Board meeting.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Charles Hagelgans <chuckcmk@gmail.com>  
72 Helwig St.  
Gloversville, NY 12078

**From:** Craig A. Emblidge <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 10:29 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Dear Mr. Cooper:

1. The draft APA Public Comment Policy should only be revised for a new comment deadline by Monday at 5PM before the APA's monthly meeting if it includes a requirement that the APA releases its agenda two Mondays before its monthly meeting and posts all meeting materials to the APA website two Wednesdays prior to the scheduled Board meeting.
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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Craig A. Emblidge <cemblidge@roadrunner.com>  
29 Owen Avenue  
Queensbury, New York 12804

**From:** Dale W. Lewis <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 10, 2023 5:48 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Dear Mr. Cooper:

1. The draft APA Public Comment Policy should only be revised for a new comment deadline by Monday at 5PM before the APA's monthly meeting if it includes a requirement that the APA releases its agenda two Mondays before its monthly meeting and posts all meeting materials to the APA website two Wednesdays prior to the scheduled Board meeting.
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6. The draft APA Policy & Guidance System should be modified to require the APA to post all proposed new or revised "ministerial" policy changes to the APA website at least eight days prior to the scheduled Board meeting.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Dale W. Lewis <dwlewis14424@aol.com>  
4171 Angela Way  
Canandaigua, NY 14424

**From:** Daniel Willner <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 2:19 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Dear Mr. Cooper:

1. The draft APA Public Comment Policy should only be revised for a new comment deadline by Monday at 5PM before the APA's monthly meeting if it includes a requirement that the APA releases its agenda two Mondays before its monthly meeting and posts all meeting materials to the APA website two Wednesdays prior to the scheduled Board meeting.
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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Daniel Willner <danielwillner@yahoo.com>  
190 Cherry Street  
Katonah, NY 10536

**From:** David Brauer <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 9:28 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Dear Mr. Cooper:

1. The draft APA Public Comment Policy should only be revised for a new comment deadline by Monday at 5PM before the APA's monthly meeting if it includes a requirement that the APA releases its agenda two Mondays before its monthly meeting and posts all meeting materials to the APA website two Wednesdays prior to the scheduled Board meeting.
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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

David Brauer <dbrauer31@msn.com>  
74 Forest Brook Dr  
Lake Placid, NY 12946



**From:** David de Vinck <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 20, 2023 4:20 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

David de Vinck <ddevinck@gmail.com>  
14 Pine Meadow Place  
North River, NY 12856

**From:** David Safrany <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 11:33 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Dear Mr. Cooper:

1. The draft APA Public Comment Policy should only be revised for a new comment deadline by Monday at 5PM before the APA's monthly meeting if it includes a requirement that the APA releases its agenda two Mondays before its monthly meeting and posts all meeting materials to the APA website two Wednesdays prior to the scheduled Board meeting.
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6. The draft APA Policy & Guidance System should be modified to require the APA to post all proposed new or revised "ministerial" policy changes to the APA website at least eight days prior to the scheduled Board meeting.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

David Safrany <Kiosk@coastside.net>  
11252 Ranetto Place  
Lake View Terrace, California 91342

**From:** Kimberly Hoover <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 11, 2023 1:19 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Dear Mr. Cooper:

I have been involved in submitting comments on the Upper Saranac Marina project on Lower Fish Creek Pond. I have been so proud to be a New Yorker and see firsthand how professional and involved the APA members have been. We live in a state that has more public parkland than all the national parks put together which is amazing! That's why I was so surprised and disappointed that it appears the APA is trying to stifle public input. I can't believe all the members support this and I believe the chair can easily remind the public that any comments cannot relate to actual decisions pending that day.

In addition:

1. The draft APA Public Comment Policy should only be revised for a new comment deadline by Monday at 5PM before the APA's monthly meeting if it includes a requirement that the APA releases its agenda two Mondays before its monthly meeting and posts all meeting materials to the APA website two Wednesdays prior to the scheduled Board meeting.
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6. The draft APA Policy & Guidance System should be modified to require the APA to post all proposed new or revised "ministerial" policy changes to the APA website at least eight days prior to the scheduled Board meeting.

Thank you very much for your time and effort on making NYS a better place to live.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Hoover <kim@hooverarchitecture.com>  
229/230 LaJeunesse Rd.  
Saranace Lake, NY 12983

**From:** David Safrany <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 11:32 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Dear Mr. Cooper:

1. The draft APA Public Comment Policy should only be revised for a new comment deadline by Monday at 5PM before the APA's monthly meeting if it includes a requirement that the APA releases its agenda two Mondays before its monthly meeting and posts all meeting materials to the APA website two Wednesdays prior to the scheduled Board meeting.
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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

David Safrany <Kiosk@coastside.net>  
11252 Ranetto Place  
Lake View Terrace, California 91342

**From:** Deborah Coffin <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 12:16 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Dear Mr. Cooper:

1. The draft APA Public Comment Policy should only be revised for a new comment deadline by Monday at 5PM before the APA's monthly meeting if it includes a requirement that the APA releases its agenda two Mondays before its monthly meeting and posts all meeting materials to the APA website two Wednesdays prior to the scheduled Board meeting.
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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Deborah Coffin <debocoffin@gmail.com>  
906 Stowersville Rd  
Westport, NY 12993

**From:** Derrick Tingley <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 10:39 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Dear Mr. Cooper:

1. The draft APA Public Comment Policy should only be revised for a new comment deadline by Monday at 5PM before the APA's monthly meeting if it includes a requirement that the APA releases its agenda two Mondays before its monthly meeting and posts all meeting materials to the APA website two Wednesdays prior to the scheduled Board meeting.
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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Derrick Tingley <derricktingley@yahoo.com>  
234 Ruth Street  
Minoa, New York 13116

**From:** Diana Webster <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 14, 2023 4:21 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Dear Mr. Cooper:

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Diana Webster <dianawebster@yahoo.com>  
645 Indian Carry Rd  
Tupper Lake, NY 12986



**From:** Donna Romeo <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 10:42 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Dear Mr. Cooper:

1. The draft APA Public Comment Policy should only be revised for a new comment deadline by Monday at 5PM before the APA's monthly meeting if it includes a requirement that the APA releases its agenda two Mondays before its monthly meeting and posts all meeting materials to the APA website two Wednesdays prior to the scheduled Board meeting.
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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Donna Romeo <dromeo33@aol.com>  
3015 Maple Rd.  
Woodgate, NY 13494

**From:** Dr Leon Hammer <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 10, 2023 10:42 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Dear Mr. Cooper:

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6. The draft APA Policy & Guidance System should be modified to require the APA to post all proposed new or revised "ministerial" policy changes to the APA website at least eight days prior to the scheduled Board meeting.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Dr Leon Hammer <ewahammer@mac.com>  
4441 Stack Blvd, Apt C242  
Melbourne, FL 32901

**From:** Elleen Egan Mack <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 11:32 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Dear Mr. Cooper:

It is alarming to hear the the APA is following a dangerous trend in our democracy to limit the voice of the people. I fear the lack of input to the APA may result in further eroding of protections for the wildlife, plants, and waters of the Adirondacks. It is imperative that safe, for the board and the citizens, opportunities to respond to APA proposals remain a part of the process of deciding on policy. And remember, the most vulnerable cannot speak for themselves, that being the land, soil, plants, animals, air and water. They are counting on you and the public to be the "defenders of wilderness."

1. The draft APA Public Comment Policy should only be revised for a new comment deadline by Monday at 5PM before the APA's monthly meeting if it includes a requirement that the APA releases its agenda two Mondays before its monthly meeting and posts all meeting materials to the APA website two Wednesdays prior to the scheduled Board meeting.
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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Elleen Egan Mack <leenie151@gmail.com>  
16 Vandenburg Lane

Latham,, NY 12110

**From:** Deborah Muller <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 11, 2023 3:06 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Dear Mr. Cooper:

1. The draft APA Public Comment Policy should only be revised for a new comment deadline by Monday at 5PM before the APA's monthly meeting if it includes a requirement that the APA releases its agenda two Mondays before its monthly meeting and posts all meeting materials to the APA website two Wednesdays prior to the scheduled Board meeting.
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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Deborah Muller <dmuller@hracuity.com>  
235 Lajeunesse  
Saranac Lake, NY 12983

**From:** Denise Griffin <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 11, 2023 1:52 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Dear Mr. Cooper:

1. The draft APA Public Comment Policy should only be revised for a new comment deadline by Monday at 5PM before the APA's monthly meeting if it includes a requirement that the APA releases its agenda two Mondays before its monthly meeting and posts all meeting materials to the APA website two Wednesdays prior to the scheduled Board meeting.
2. The draft APA Public Comment Policy should include a section that details the process for how comments are delivered to the Board and to document that they were read in advance of the meeting.
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4. The draft APA Policy & Guidance System should be amended to require that the Board consider proposed "non-ministerial" changes at two public meetings before any action is taken to adopt a new policy.
5. The draft APA Policy & Guidance System should state that public notice of proposed new or revised non-ministerial policy changes must be published by press release, on the Agency website, and in the Environmental Notice Bulletin at least two weeks prior to the APA meeting in which the policy will be considered by the Board.
6. The draft APA Policy & Guidance System should be modified to require the APA to post all proposed new or revised "ministerial" policy changes to the APA website at least eight days prior to the scheduled Board meeting.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Denise Griffin <mayadenise@yahoo.com>  
POBox 33  
Vermontville, NY 12989

**From:** Diane Gleave <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 12, 2023 11:08 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

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6. The draft APA Policy & Guidance System should be modified to require the APA to post all proposed new or revised "ministerial" policy changes to the APA website at least eight days prior to the scheduled Board meeting.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Diane Gleave <DIANEGLEAVE@GMAIL.COM>  
252 N Queens Ave  
N Massapequa, NY 11758

**From:** Haley Myers <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 11, 2023 3:27 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Haley Myers <haleyjmyers1@gmail.com>  
10 Rotary Lane  
Summit, New Jersey 07901



**From:** Henry Muller <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 11, 2023 3:10 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Henry Muller <h.mulls13@gmail.com>  
235 LaJeunesse Rd  
Saranac Lake, New York 12983

**From:** Matt Muller <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 11, 2023 3:16 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
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Ray Brook, NY 12977

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Matt Muller <me@mattmuller.xyz>  
235 Lajeunesse  
Saranac Lake, NY 12983

**From:** Patricia Vineski <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 11, 2023 12:06 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

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6. The draft APA Policy & Guidance System should be modified to require the APA to post all proposed new or revised "ministerial" policy changes to the APA website at least eight days prior to the scheduled Board meeting.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Patricia Vineski <vineskipatricia@gmail.com>  
76 E Hill Rd  
South Colton, NY 13687

**From:** Patricia Vineski <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 11, 2023 12:06 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Patricia Vineski <vineskipatricia@gmail.com>  
76 E Hill Rd  
South Colton, NY 13687

**From:** Suzannah Taylor <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 12, 2023 11:13 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Suzannah Taylor <suzannahtaylor@gmail.com>  
208 Fish Creek Park Road  
Saranac Lake, NY 12983

**From:** Suzanne Charles <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 11, 2023 3:16 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Charles <suzannec48@aol.com>  
180 Fish Creek Park Road  
Saranac Lake, NY 12983

**From:** Timothy Muller <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 11, 2023 3:12 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

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1. The draft APA Public Comment Policy should only be revised for a new comment deadline by Monday at 5PM before the APA's monthly meeting if it includes a requirement that the APA releases its agenda two Mondays before its monthly meeting and posts all meeting materials to the APA website two Wednesdays prior to the scheduled Board meeting.
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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Timothy Muller <tmuller23@gmail.com>  
235 Lajeunesse Rd  
Saranac Lake, NY 12983

**From:** Elinor George <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 10:45 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Elinor George <elgeorge46@gmail.com>  
31 Adams Ln  
Paradox, NY 12858-1714



**From:** Ellen C. Collins <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 9:10 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Ellen C. Collins <17ellencollins@gmail.com> PO Box 156, 3339 State Route 28 Blue Mountain Lake, NY 12812

**From:** Erica Wager <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 9, 2023 9:03 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Erica Wager <erica.wager@gmail.com>  
324 Jatski drive  
Ballston spa, Ny 12020

**From:** Erik DePol <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 9:41 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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Christopher Cooper  
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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Erik DePol <erik.depol@gmail.com>  
27 Fairview Road  
Scarsdale, NY 10583

**From:** Ewa Hammer <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 10, 2023 10:40 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Ewa Hammer <ewahammer@mac.com>  
4441 Stack Blvd, Apt C242  
Melbourne, FL 32901

**From:** Franklin Sayles <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 12:54 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Franklin Sayles <fasayles@yahoo.com>  
344 Long Lake Rd  
Woodgate, NY 13494

**From:** Georgia E. Jones <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 10:17 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Dear Mr. Cooper:

1. The draft APA Public Comment Policy should only be revised for a new comment deadline by Monday at 5PM before the APA's monthly meeting if it includes a requirement that the APA releases its agenda two Mondays before its monthly meeting and posts all meeting materials to the APA website two Wednesdays prior to the scheduled Board meeting.
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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Georgia E. Jones <georgia11@roadrunner.com>  
8 Grandview Avenue  
Lake Placid, NY 12946

**From:** Gregory Wait <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 14, 2023 8:12 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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Christopher Cooper  
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P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Gregory Wait <skidog17@msn.com>  
475 county Route 10  
Corinth, NY 12822

**From:** Hai-Ping Yeh <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 9:42 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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Adirondack Park Agency  
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Ray Brook, NY 12977

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Hai-Ping Yeh <haiping@frontiernet.net>  
315 E. Kerleys Corners Rd.  
Tivoli, NY 12583



**From:** Heidi Pringle <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 9, 2023 8:11 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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Ray Brook, NY 12977

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Heidi Pringle <hepringle99@gmail.com>  
3237 Ramblewood Rd  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21042

**From:** Helen K Chase <hkchase190@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 20, 2023 2:04 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Christopher Cooper, Agency Counsel - public comment

You don't often get email from hkchase190@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

**ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.**

I am a director of the organization Adirondack Wild: Friends of the Forest Preserve. The APA provides opportunity for the public to participate and to have a chance to remark on the business before the Agency. It is extremely important that the Agency keep the business open and transparent to the public. When everyone is informed and able to communicate openly, the public will know that they are appreciated and welcomed in sharing their suggestions, views, and knowledge. Very importantly, it is the public who have an historical memory and can express their concerns about discrepancies and inaccuracies. The APA has not been keeping up on its own historical memories and needs to depend more on the people who live in the Park, and who care intimately about the place where they live.

Please retain the morning public comment opportunity and respect the public's right to be heard about issues affecting the Adirondack Park.

In fact, please expand the public comment opportunities from 10 minutes to 15 minutes at the start and close of each APA meeting.

I personally want to remind the APA that it is its responsibility to protect the natural resources to the benefit of all New Yorkers.

There are some concerns that crop up in the last minutes prior to the APA meetings; it is important to allow written public comments to be received and considered anytime (at the discretion of the Agency – it is always at the discretion of the Agency) and not be restricted to three days prior to Agency meetings.

Fast-tracking approvals of APA policy documents in a one-meeting cycle effectively eliminates public input. The APA is meant to be an agency open to the public and open to public input. The public lives in the Park; the public needs to be heard about issues regarding the Park; The Agency needs to hear what the public is saying.

Thank you for reading this request to listen to the public in whatever ways you can and in however amount is possible. The APA was created to work with the public that lives within the Park to protect the natural resources.

--

*Helen K. Chase*  
*P.O. Box 205*  
*190 Chase Road*  
*Shokan, NY 12481-0205*  
*(845) 657-2107 (h)*  
*(845) 901-3352 (c)*  
<[hkchase190@gmail.com](mailto:hkchase190@gmail.com)>

**From:** Jack Carney <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 12:36 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Jack Carney <Jacarney4214@gmail.com>  
32 Keller Bay Way, PO Box 784, PO Box 784 LONG LAKE, NY 12847

**From:** James Light <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 20, 2023 8:11 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

James Light <jameslight@optonline.net>  
132 Seeley Street  
Scotia, NY 12302

**From:** Jane Alpert <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 9:35 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Jane Alpert <janealpert@gmail.com>  
POB 84  
Paradox, NY 12858

**From:** Jane Robbins <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 10:54 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Jane Robbins <robbinsjk@nycap.rr.com>  
21 Beechwood Drive  
Burnt Hills, NY 12027

**From:** Jeanne and Steve Johnson <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 9, 2023 9:14 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Jeanne and Steve Johnson <steveandjeanej@gmail.com>  
276 Long Lake Road  
Woodgate, NY 13494

**From:** Jeffrey B. Flagg <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 9:42 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey B. Flagg <jeffflagg@hotmail.com>  
49 E. Beacon Street  
Glens Falls, NY 12801



**From:** Jeffrey Gardiner <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 11:22 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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Ray Brook, NY 12977

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Gardiner <jgardine@nycap.rr.com>  
1076 Whitesides Rd  
Galway, NY 12074

I don't imagine that the APA is ever going to expand the amount of time for public comments, but I do see how (based on current wording) not only could it be reduced substantially, it could be eliminated entirely.

Honestly, does the APA want to hear the public's concerns at all? Because the way this proposal has been written, the answer is no. Was that your intent?

4. The draft APA Policy & Guidance System should be amended to require that the Board consider proposed "non-ministerial" changes at two public meetings before any action is taken to adopt a new policy.

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Thank you very much for reading my comments.

Jen Ortiz

229-230 LaJeunesse Road

Saranac Lake, NY

**From:** Jeremy C <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 12, 2023 9:08 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Jeremy C <Buta275@yahoo.com>  
5 Kelshawn Ct.  
Latham, NY 12110

**From:** Joe Kozlina <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 10:20 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Joe Kozlina <jkozlina@hotmail.com>  
2682 Wampum Mt Air Road  
New Galilee, pa 16141

**From:** John dey <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 9, 2023 4:31 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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6. The draft APA Policy & Guidance System should be modified to require the APA to post all proposed new or revised "ministerial" policy changes to the APA website at least eight days prior to the scheduled Board meeting.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

John dey <jdey100369@gmail.com>  
187 e dark hollow rd  
Pipersville, Pennsylvania 28947

**From:** Karen A Slade <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 10:26 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Dear Mr. Cooper:

1. The draft APA Public Comment Policy should only be revised for a new comment deadline by Monday at 5PM before the APA's monthly meeting if it includes a requirement that the APA releases its agenda two Mondays before its monthly meeting and posts all meeting materials to the APA website two Wednesdays prior to the scheduled Board meeting.
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6. The draft APA Policy & Guidance System should be modified to require the APA to post all proposed new or revised "ministerial" policy changes to the APA website at least eight days prior to the scheduled Board meeting.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Karen A Slade <karenandslade@yahoo.com>  
430 Long Lake Rd.  
Woodgate, NY 13494

**From:** Karen Dunn <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 9, 2023 9:42 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Karen Dunn <karenmdunn@gmail.com>  
444long Lake Road  
Woodgate, New York 13066

**From:** Kathleen M. Dunlap <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 10, 2023 11:57 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Kathleen M. Dunlap <cank@roadrunner.com>  
150 Oaknoll Court  
Elma, NY 14059



**From:** Kathleen McCarthy <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 1:09 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Kathleen McCarthy <kmccarthy99@yahoo.com>  
114 west 27th st  
New York, NY 10001

**From:** Keith Butters <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 10:50 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Keith Butters <kabutters@aol.com>  
13959 St Route 28  
Forestport, New York 13338

**From:** Kenneth Robbins <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 11:30 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Kenneth Robbins <robbinsjk@nycap.rr.com>  
3008 Our Way  
Putnam Station, NY 12861

**From:** Kevin Proescholdt/ Jean Swanson <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 9:40 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Dear Mr. Cooper:

As Minnesotans who care deeply about the Adirondacks, we want to submit this comment.

1. The draft APA Public Comment Policy should only be revised for a new comment deadline by Monday at 5PM before the APA's monthly meeting if it includes a requirement that the APA releases its agenda two Mondays before its monthly meeting and posts all meeting materials to the APA website two Wednesdays prior to the scheduled Board meeting.
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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Kevin Proescholdt/ Jean Swanson <kevin-jean@msn.com>  
2833 43rd Ave. S.  
Minneapolis, MN 55406

**From:** Kimberly Rieth <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 10, 2023 5:52 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Rieth <kimberly.rieth@thehartford.com>  
13424 State Route 28  
Woodgate, NY 13494

**From:** Korn Martin W. <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 10:25 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Korn Martin W. <marty@kornfamily.com>  
15 Townsend Rd. , PO Box 53  
Schroon Lake, NY 12870

**From:** laborerman <laborerman@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 21, 2023 10:03 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** FW: Public Participation

You don't often get email from laborerman@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

----- Original message -----

**From:** laborerman <laborerman@yahoo.com>  
**Date:** 4/20/23 8:18 AM (GMT-05:00)  
**To:** PublicComment@apa.ny.gov  
**Cc:** "Adirondack Wild: Friends of the Forest Preserve" <adirondackwild@adirondackwild.org>  
**Subject:** Public Participation

As a resident and registered voter of the State of New York, I am very much disturbed and disappointed that your agency is considering restricting access to the public which you are supposed to serve and represent.

All these proposals deny opportunities to the citizens to have a say about their land.

At the very least, public participation should be expanded to 15 minutes for meaningful representation. The public's right to be heard must be respected.

With regard to written comments, the agency must be open to comments from the citizenry at any point. Consideration of those comments by the Board should not be only restricted for a particular time as not everyone can be on top of every issue for a certain period of time.

Following the above comments, no Fast Track policy changes where only one meeting effects a change in policy is fair to the people of this State. The 3 cycle meeting policy must not be shortened.

Every one of these policies flies in the face of Open Government. Governor Hochul promised to end the Era of Secrecy of the last Governor.

I only hope that all these suggestions are not implemented. If not, the urgency to revisit the Act may gain momentum and prevent the agency from carrying out its mission to serve the people.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey A Levitt  
175 Whitehall Road  
Albany NY 12209

(518)441-2919

laborerman@yahoo.com

**From:** Lauren Luckert <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 12, 2023 5:21 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Dear Mr. Cooper:

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Lauren Luckert <woodswoman31@gmail.com>  
503 Maple Grove Road  
Northville, NY 12134



**From:** Laurence R. Blackhurst III <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 4:26 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
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Ray Brook, NY 12977

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Laurence R. Blackhurst III <Laurenceblackhurst@gmail.com>  
49 Birch Mountain Road  
North River, NY 12856

**From:** Lawrence D'Arco <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 1:18 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Dear Mr. Cooper:

I fully support Protect the Adirondacks opposition to changes to public comment policies. This is a democracy!

1. The draft APA Public Comment Policy should only be revised for a new comment deadline by Monday at 5PM before the APA's monthly meeting if it includes a requirement that the APA releases its agenda two Mondays before its monthly meeting and posts all meeting materials to the APA website two Wednesdays prior to the scheduled Board meeting.
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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Lawrence D'Arco <abelincoln1863@yahoo.com>  
1202 Greenwich Drive  
Albany, NY 12203

**From:** Lisa Bellamy <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 10:45 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Lisa Bellamy <chodron02@gmail.com>  
505 9th Street, Apt. 4L  
Brooklyn, NY 11215

**From:** Louanne R Petronio Cossa <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 2:44 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Louanne R Petronio Cossa <oldicehouse74@gmail.com>  
74 Old Ice House Road  
Woodgate, NY 13494

**From:** Mariann Archer <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 12:30 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Dear Mr. Cooper:

1. The draft APA Public Comment Policy should only be revised for a new comment deadline by Monday at 5PM before the APA's monthly meeting if it includes a requirement that the APA releases its agenda two Mondays before its monthly meeting and posts all meeting materials to the APA website two Wednesdays prior to the scheduled Board meeting.
2. The draft APA Public Comment Policy should include a section that details the process for how comments are delivered to the Board and to document that they were read in advance of the meeting.
3. The draft APA Public Comment Policy should not be changed to remove the public comment period at the beginning of the APA meeting. This gives the public, who often travel a great distance, with certainty for making a comment.
4. The draft APA Policy & Guidance System should be amended to require that the Board consider proposed "non-ministerial" changes at two public meetings before any action is taken to adopt a new policy.
5. The draft APA Policy & Guidance System should state that public notice of proposed new or revised non-ministerial policy changes must be published by press release, on the Agency website, and in the Environmental Notice Bulletin at least two weeks prior to the APA meeting in which the policy will be considered by the Board.
6. The draft APA Policy & Guidance System should be modified to require the APA to post all proposed new or revised "ministerial" policy changes to the APA website at least eight days prior to the scheduled Board meeting.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Mariann Archer <Marcher17@roadrunner.com>  
34 Hoomstead Rd West  
Clinton, New York 13323

**From:** Mariann Archer <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 12:28 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Dear Mr. Cooper:

1. The draft APA Public Comment Policy should only be revised for a new comment deadline by Monday at 5PM before the APA's monthly meeting if it includes a requirement that the APA releases its agenda two Mondays before its monthly meeting and posts all meeting materials to the APA website two Wednesdays prior to the scheduled Board meeting.
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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Mariann Archer <Marcher17@roadrunner.com>  
34 Homestead Rd West  
Clinton, New York 13323

**From:** Marilyn Sargent <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 10:06 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

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1. The draft APA Public Comment Policy should only be revised for a new comment deadline by Monday at 5PM before the APA's monthly meeting if it includes a requirement that the APA releases its agenda two Mondays before its monthly meeting and posts all meeting materials to the APA website two Wednesdays prior to the scheduled Board meeting.
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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Marilyn Sargent <marilysargent414@gmail.com>  
936 South Shore Rd.  
Northville, NY 12134-5933

**From:** Martha E DuMont <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 8:36 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Martha E DuMont <dumonsers@hotmail.com>  
2201 S Shore RD  
Old Forge, New York 13420



**From:** Martin W. Korn <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 10:24 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Martin W. Korn <marty@kornfamily.com>  
15 Townsend Rd. , PO Box 53  
Schroon Lake, NY 12870

**From:** Mary Blackhurst <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 5:35 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

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6. The draft APA Policy & Guidance System should be modified to require the APA to post all proposed new or revised "ministerial" policy changes to the APA website at least eight days prior to the scheduled Board meeting.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Mary Blackhurst <maryblackhurst@gmail.com>  
49 Birch Mountain Road  
North River, NY 12856

**From:** Matthew Webster <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 10, 2023 2:32 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

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1. The draft APA Public Comment Policy should only be revised for a new comment deadline by Monday at 5PM before the APA's monthly meeting if it includes a requirement that the APA releases its agenda two Mondays before its monthly meeting and posts all meeting materials to the APA website two Wednesdays prior to the scheduled Board meeting.
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6. The draft APA Policy & Guidance System should be modified to require the APA to post all proposed new or revised "ministerial" policy changes to the APA website at least eight days prior to the scheduled Board meeting.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Matthew Webster <webster.matt.a@gmail.com>  
645 Indian Carry Road  
Tupper Lake, New York 12986

**From:** Melissa Johnson <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 1:47 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Dear Mr. Cooper:

1. The draft APA Public Comment Policy should only be revised for a new comment deadline by Monday at 5PM before the APA's monthly meeting if it includes a requirement that the APA releases its agenda two Mondays before its monthly meeting and posts all meeting materials to the APA website two Wednesdays prior to the scheduled Board meeting.
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6. The draft APA Policy & Guidance System should be modified to require the APA to post all proposed new or revised "ministerial" policy changes to the APA website at least eight days prior to the scheduled Board meeting.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Melissa Johnson <majohmson2@gmail.com>  
1214 Imperial Dr  
Webster, New York 14580-9533

**From:** Michael Bonesteel <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 10, 2023 3:13 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Dear Mr. Cooper:

1. The draft APA Public Comment Policy should only be revised for a new comment deadline by Monday at 5PM before the APA's monthly meeting if it includes a requirement that the APA releases its agenda two Mondays before its monthly meeting and posts all meeting materials to the APA website two Wednesdays prior to the scheduled Board meeting.
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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Michael Bonesteel <workmrb@aol.com>  
32174 Bonhill Drive  
Salisbury, MD 21804

**From:** Mint Iannucci <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 11:54 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Mint Iannucci <mintiannucci@gmail.com>  
155 River St.  
Warrensburg, NY 12885

**From:** Patti Packer <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 10:46 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Patti Packer <pattiac@nycap.rr.com>  
5 Jennifer Rd  
Scotia, NY 12302

**From:** Pete Klosterman <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 4:05 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Pete Klosterman <petek@accesscom.com>  
372 Central Park W Apt 12A  
New York, New York 10025-8209



**From:** Peter Bauer <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 9:16 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Peter Bauer <peb1962@gmail.com>  
PO Box 167  
Blue Mountain Lake, NY 12812

**From:** PETER BIEN <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 9:55 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

PETER BIEN <peter.bien@dartmouth.edu>  
207 Waddell Road  
Riparius, NY 12862

**From:** PETER BIEN <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 9:54 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

PETER BIEN <peter.bien@dartmouth.edu>  
207 Waddell Road  
Riparius, NY 12862

**From:** Phyllis Thompson <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 10:41 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Phyllis Thompson <phyllisbthompson43@gmail.com> P.O. Box 1245 Tupper Lake, NY 13986

**From:** Richard Gleave <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 12, 2023 7:53 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Dear Mr. Cooper:

1. The draft APA Public Comment Policy should only be revised for a new comment deadline by Monday at 5PM before the APA's monthly meeting if it includes a requirement that the APA releases its agenda two Mondays before its monthly meeting and posts all meeting materials to the APA website two Wednesdays prior to the scheduled Board meeting.
2. The draft APA Public Comment Policy should include a section that details the process for how comments are delivered to the Board and to document that they were read in advance of the meeting.
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6. The draft APA Policy & Guidance System should be modified to require the APA to post all proposed new or revised "ministerial" policy changes to the APA website at least eight days prior to the scheduled Board meeting.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Richard Gleave <richgleave47@gmail.com>  
252 N Queens Ave  
N Massapequa, NY 11758

**From:** Richard Hoke <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 9, 2023 7:52 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Richard Hoke <dhoke8025@gmail.com>  
8025 Poplar Road, PO Box 154  
Woodgate, New York 13494

**From:** Richita Anderson <Richita.Anderson.247190548@p2a.co>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 19, 2023 12:30 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Please provide equitable and accessible public comment opportunities

You don't often get email from richita.anderson.247190548@p2a.co. [Learn why this is important](#)

**ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.**

Dear Agency Counsel Christopher Cooper,

The public currently has multiple opportunities to offer oral or written comments on decisions before the agency or on any subject they choose. Public comment opportunities are necessary to provide the APA board with key facts and perspectives that help them in their deliberations, ensuring that the APA is serving the interests of all New Yorkers.

The recently proposed draft amendments to the Public Comment Policy to the APA board is intended to guide public feedback on Agency actions and operations in advance of and/or during monthly meetings. If approved as drafted, these changes will constrain public engagement and a critical legal function within our state government and the Adirondack Park.

I urge the APA to please:

- Retain oral public comment opportunities at the beginning of the meeting as well as at the end, allowing for two windows of time for flexibility and engagement from the public.
- Support the incorporation of remote comments to allow for both in-person and virtual comments at Agency meetings.
- Add language requiring the Agency to post meeting agendas and materials at least a week in advance of the Agency meeting date so that the public has sufficient time to review and provide written comments.
- State that the written public comment for posted agency materials should be submitted no less than two (2) full business days prior to the Agency meeting to allow for more robust and transparent public review and comment.
- Clarify at what time (e.g., close of business) written public comments are due under Noticed Public Comment Period.
- Restore text regarding written comments for Unit Management Plan (UMP) conformance with the APA's State Land Master Plan.

The Adirondack Park belongs to ALL New Yorkers. We need more public comment opportunities, not less.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Regards,  
Richita Anderson  
10 Downing St  
New York, NY 10014

**From:** Robert Finnegan <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 10, 2023 7:54 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Dear Mr. Cooper:

As a property owner in Keene Valley, NY, these matters are extremely important to me.

1. The draft APA Public Comment Policy should only be revised for a new comment deadline by Monday at 5PM before the APA's monthly meeting if it includes a requirement that the APA releases its agenda two Mondays before its monthly meeting and posts all meeting materials to the APA website two Wednesdays prior to the scheduled Board meeting.
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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Robert Finnegan <bobbwf@aol.com>  
31 Rundelane  
Bloomfield, Connecticut 06002



**From:** Robert J Godlewski <rgodlews@nycap.rr.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 29, 2023 10:19 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Priveledge of The Floor

You don't often get email from rgodlews@nycap.rr.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

**ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.**

Not sure who came up with this idea but it is the worst thing you could do. It is bad enough that your main office is way up north which restricts a lot of people from make comments on your projects in person. It would make more sense that you move your office to the capital district where it is more convenient for the public. Ever since the APA was created over 50 years ago the residents who live in the Blue Line have never trusted the APA! This types of administrative manipulating increase that mistrust.

Like all agency's or government bodies you should be encouraging public comment on all issues.

For the record I am dead against anything that restricts the public input into the process.

Be Safe

Bob G.

**From:** Robert Miller <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 10:03 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Robert Miller <bobinaltamont@gmail.com>  
6314 Hawes Rd  
Altamont, NLY 12009

**From:** Ronald Larsen <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 13, 2023 1:44 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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Christopher Cooper  
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P.O. Box 99  
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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Ronald Larsen <rlarsen01@twcny.rr.com>  
174 CR 35  
Canton, NY 13617

**From:** Rosemary pusateri <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 11:20 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Rosemary pusateri <pusateri14@aol.com>  
75 mason rd  
Cleverdale, Ny 12820

**From:** Sara Mullins <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 11:35 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Sara Mullins <s.mullins@frontier.com>  
46 Orlin Duell Rd.  
Brant Lake, NY 12815

**From:** Shawn Hebert <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 10, 2023 7:31 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Shawn Hebert <SHebert@fmschools.org>  
4504 Winding Creek Rd  
Manlius, NY 13104

**From:** Stephen F Smith <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 3:03 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Stephen F Smith <moe144@hotmail.com>  
7 Forest Ave  
Troy, NY 12180

**From:** Stephen Mullins <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 11:38 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Stephen Mullins <s.mullins@frontier.com>  
46 Orlin Duell Rd.  
Brant Lake, New York 12815



**From:** Stephen T Shafer <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 9:25 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Stephen T Shafer <sshafer1121@gmail.com>  
40 Scott Dr  
Malone, NY 12953

**From:** Styra Avins Eisinger <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 2:21 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Styra Avins Eisinger <savins@att.net>  
197 West Houston Street  
New York, NY 10014

**From:** Styra Avins Eisinger <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 2:21 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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Sincerely,

Styra Avins Eisinger <savins@att.net>  
197 West Houston Street  
New York, NY 10014

**From:** Susan Marris <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 9, 2023 11:36 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Susan Marris <sbmarris002@gmail.com>  
4322 Brickyard Falls Rd  
Manlius, New York 13104

**From:** Susan Storch <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 2:57 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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3. The draft APA Public Comment Policy should not be changed to remove the public comment period at the beginning of the APA meeting. This gives the public, who often travel a great distance, with certainty for making a comment.
4. The draft APA Policy & Guidance System should be amended to require that the Board consider proposed "non-ministerial" changes at two public meetings before any action is taken to adopt a new policy.
5. The draft APA Policy & Guidance System should state that public notice of proposed new or revised non-ministerial policy changes must be published by press release, on the Agency website, and in the Environmental Notice Bulletin at least two weeks prior to the APA meeting in which the policy will be considered by the Board.
6. The draft APA Policy & Guidance System should be modified to require the APA to post all proposed new or revised "ministerial" policy changes to the APA website at least eight days prior to the scheduled Board meeting.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Susan Storch <slstorch@mac.com>  
155 Church Pond  
Saranac Lake, NY 12983

**From:** Suzanne Carrillo <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 9:49 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Dear Mr. Cooper:

How much less transparent can the APA be? In my own personal experience, APA has done their best to stay under the radar as they seek to harm the environment through arbitrary and capricious decisions, not following their own processes or policies. A total lack of noncompliance that will ultimately harm the environment. The public would like to be heard.

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Carrillo <swmrfsh@gmail.com>  
28 Deerwood Lane  
Saranac Lake, NY 12983

**From:** Tad Welch <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 10, 2023 9:25 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

Dear Mr. Cooper:

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Tad Welch <tadwelch@gmail.com>  
1297 Ellis Hollow Road  
Ithaca, New York 14850

**From:** Virginia Hutton <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 20, 2023 10:09 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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TO: The NYS Adirondack Park Agency

Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Virginia Hutton <vmhutton@gmail.com>  
21 Arthur Lane  
Saugerties, NY 12477



**From:** Wayne Niskala <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 15, 2023 3:27 PM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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Christopher Cooper  
Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

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Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Wayne Niskala <niskytoo@gmail.com>  
58 Old Ice House Rd.  
Woodgate, NY 13494

**From:** William Mccutcheon <info@protectadks.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 8, 2023 9:51 AM  
**To:** apa.sm.AgencyMeeting.PublicComment  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Changes to APA Public Comment Policies

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Adirondack Park Agency  
P.O. Box 99  
Ray Brook, NY 12977

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6. The draft APA Policy & Guidance System should be modified to require the APA to post all proposed new or revised "ministerial" policy changes to the APA website at least eight days prior to the scheduled Board meeting.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

William Mccutcheon <Bigearl37@comcast.net>  
51 Hampton road  
Chatham, New Jersey 07928