



Adirondack Park Agency

SHERMAN CRAIG
Chairman

TERRY MARTINO
Executive Director

MEMORANDUM

TO: Terry Martino
FROM: Kathleen Regan
DATE: October 4, 2017
RE: MA2017-01 (Town of Essex)

The Adirondack Park Agency has reviewed a request for amendments to the Official Adirondack Park Land Use and Development Plan Map (Official Map) from the Town of Essex. The application consists of 15 different proposals, ranging from approximately 2.3 acres to 2,599 acres, and includes proposals for both more restrictive and less restrictive classifications. This proposal includes one Hamlet expansion (5.5 acres) where public sewer and water service currently exist. The map amendment proposals are the culmination of several years of work by the Town with assistance from the Agency. Staff carefully analyzed the Town's natural resource characteristics and other land use considerations, as well as a revision to the Town's zoning law and zoning map. The proposed map amendments will significantly reduce discrepancies between the Town's zoning map and the Official Map, the primary objective of the Town.

The Agency published a Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (DSEIS) on January 13, 2017. A public hearing was held on May 23, 2017 and the comment period concluded on June 12, 2017. Staff has prepared a Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (FSEIS). The FSEIS includes a geographic alternative for Area A that was not in the DSEIS. It was discovered that Area A, as drafted, did not represent the Town's objective. The proposed Alternative A1 reduces the size of Area A by approximately 15 acres and responds to the Town's request.

The FSEIS contains a staff recommendation for a preferred alternative for each proposal: to approve the requested amendments for Area B through Area O and to approve Area A1, the geographic alternative mentioned above.

A printed copy of the Executive Summary of the FSEIS is attached to this memo. A copy of the full FSEIS, including appendices, and a draft Order for signature by the Deputy Director of Planning are included on the Agency mailing CD. Staff are requesting that the Agency Board accept the FSEIS and authorize staff to issue a SEQR Finding Statement and Order, and Certificate of Map Amendment.