





# DEPARTMENT OF **ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL**

10 MAPLE AVENUE, NEW CITY, NEW YORK

DENNIS M. LETSON, P.E. FIRST DEPUTY DIRECTOR

> RALPH ALAURIA DEPUTY DIRECTOR

September 30, 2009

Atzl, Scatassa & Zigler, P.C. 234 North Main Street New City, New York 10956

Project Name: Orchard Ridge Site Plan

T.M. 35.19-2-15+

Dear Applicant:

This is to inform you that we have received the full Environmental Assessment Form and under the provisions of Title 6 NYCRR Section 617.6, the Clarkstown Planning Board has agreed to coordinate the review of the involved agencies. As staff for the Planning Board, we have completed initial review of this EAF, and our review indicates the following:

Action Type: Type I

Potential Involved/Interested Agencies:

Clarkstown Planning Board

Clarkstown Building Department

Clarkstown Town Attorney

Clarkstown Department of Environmental Control

Clarkstown Architecture & Landscape Commission

Rockland County Planning Board

Rockland County Sewer District #1

New York State Department of Transportation

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Site Plan Approval

Zoning Compliance

**GML 239 Referral** 

Route 303

Wetland

Welland

If within 30 calendar days from the date of this letter, no involved agency submits a written objection to the Clarkstown Planning Board being lead agency, the Planning Board will be the lead agency and will carry out the provisions of the State Environmental Quality Review Act.

Comment on the proposed action is requested, and may be made through this office or directly to the Planning Board.

Very truly yours,

Dennie M. Letson, P. E.

Staff for the Clarkstown Planning Board

DML:ek attach.

1	11000011195
2	MR. YACYSHYN: I call the public
3	hearing for the purposes of a scoping
4	session for the application of the
5	Orchard Ridge, Congers.
6	Let the record show that Mr. Heim
7	joins us. Okay. All right, as I
8	indicated, this is the scoping session
9	for the Orchard Ridge Active Adult
10	Residential Development.
1 1	Mr. Simoes, would you be kind
1 2	enough to indicate the notice of public
1 3	scoping for the record.
1 4	MR. SIMOES: You want me to read
15	the notice into the record?
16	MR. YACYSHYN: Just indicate the
17	salient points of what the matter is
18	about.
19	MR. SIMOES: Might as well just
2 0	read it. The Town Board recently
2 1	established an Active Adult Residential
2 2	floating zone, identifying specific
2 3	criteria for the zone implementation,
2 4	and this action was the subject of a
2 5	Generic Environmental Impact Statement

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which evaluated the potential 2 environmental impacts of establishing 3 4 the AAR Zone. The Generic Environmental Impact 5 Statement clearly stipulated that 6 7 development of an active adult residential parcel would be subject to 8 site specific environmental review. 9 The Town of Clarkstown Planning 10 Board has declared itself as lead 1 1 agency, in the review of the proposed 12 13 Orchard Ridge Active Adult Residence 14 Development, and the applicant has initiated preparation of a site 15 specific Supplemental Environmental 16 Impact Statement to evaluate if there 17 18 are any significant adverse impacts on the environment as a result of the 19 project. It was a copy of the draft 20 scope which everyone one should have 21 here, and if anybody from the audience 22 wishes to have a copy, we'll have 23 copies made. It was available for 24

review in the Town clerk's office and

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1	Proceedings 4
2	was available on line.
3	We have written comments, if the
4	board accepts them, up to 10 days after
5	the close of the public scoping session
6	which would be held tonight on June
7	30th, 2010 at 8:30 p.m.
8	The project consists of nine tax
9	parcel totals 24.8 acres all owned by
10	DePaulis Enterprises and located
1 1	entirely in the Town of Clarkstown.
12	It's on Route 303 located just south of
13	the intersection of Route 303 and 9W.
1 4	The applicant is proposing to
15	construct residential project
16	consisting of 320 dwelling units on
17	24.8 acres, and the project also
18	includes consideration of development
19	of 1. 5 acres of commercial property
2 0	located immediately south of Meola
2 1	Road, in support of the Active Adult
2 2	Community proposed.
2 3	MR. YACYSHYN: Thank you. You are
2 4	the contact person, right, Mr. Simoes?
2 5	MR. SIMOES: Yes.

1	Р	roceed	ings		5
2	M	MR. YAO	CYSHYN:	Will you	ı identify
3	yourse	∍lf for	the r	ecord.	
4	M	MR. EM <i>A</i>	ANUEL:	Ira Emanı	iel,
5	M	MR. ZIO	GLER:	David Zigl	er from
6	Atzl,	Scatas	ssa and	Zigler.	
7	M	MR. YAC	CYSHYN:	Do you h	lave an
8	openin	ng stat	tement .	and would	you also
9	offer	some c	descrip	tion of th	ie project
1 0	itself	f for t	the rec	ord.	
1 1	M	AR. ZIG	GLER:	I have bee	n
1 2	nomina	ated.	Basica.	lly on you	r right you
13	have a	a model	of the	e site, an	d on your
1 4	left y	ou hav	ve a pla	an, that w	ould be
15	probab	oly pag	je two :	in the set	o f
16	drawin	ngs. I	turne	d this aro	und because
17	the bo	ottom h	nere is	the railr	oad, the
18	top is	303,	and tha	at's the w	ay the
19	model	is ove	er here	to your r	ight, so
2 0	they b	oth ma	ıtch.		
2 1	Т	The sit	e itsel	f is 29 a	cres but,
2 2	the bu	ıildabl	e area	is the 24	acres.
2 3	North	is to	your le	eft, 303 a	t the top.
2 4	This i	s the	shoppin	ng center	with a
2 5	corner	cafe	in it.		

2 This is a proposed site, this is 3 not existing. This is your Kohl's 4 building, that is the parking lot 5 behind it proposed. You have a 6 warehouse office complex here to the 7 south. 8 Across the street you have the 9 office complex. To the right, that's 10 Hemlock Drive. To the right you have 11 the little league field. 12 Now, to your left, this whole area 13 is Hidden Valley which is townhouses 14 right at the corner of 303 and 9W, and 15 down at the bottom is the railroad 16 tracks. 17 The tunnels over here to your left 18 is just off the map. This is now 19 mimicking the model you have over 20 there. The lowest part of the property 21 is down at the railroad tracks. The 22 highest part is up on 303, that is why 23 I turned it around so you'd be able to 24 see the model.

Like I said, it's 29 acres. There

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1 Proceedings 7 2 is a large DEC wetlands to the left, 3 that's why it all green. It's 4 delineated by the DEC, the delineation. 5 The site itself is a split by a town 6 sewer made now. 7 There is a large water line up on 8 top, so the site plan we submitted 9 basically designed by Dave Menno, who 10 received quit ability of awards for 1 1 design and the building concepts, 12 senior complex. 13 You have eight buildings, that's 14 these pairs right here, one, two, three, that's six, then you have the 15 two at the top of the hill. You enter 16 17 off 303, proposing to enter off 303 18 opposite Hemlock. You would have your 19 clubhouse which has a pool, and is 2 0 going to have an area out front for 21 bocci or whatever. 22 There will be a mailbox center in 2 3 it and of course community rooms. You 24 come through, that would be your water

quality basin, one of them right here.

2 The other one is going to be down here 3 to your right. 4 You will have a building up on top 5 of the hill. That is basically the highest part of the hill. That would 6 7 be a little bit higher than the Kohl's 8 building. The Kohl's building sits low 9 so this is a little bit higher, not 10 much, and then the property drops off. 11 The way the property is set up, 12 it's set up falling away from 303 so 13 the buildings are designed that way. 14 The front of the building is facing the 15 east, that's the front entrance, the 16 back of the building, which is going to 17 be one story lower which is garages, so 18 you have eight buildings, you have 40 19 units in each building. There is three 20 floors. 21 The first floor has again a 22 community type room in it, and then you 23 have three floors with the units on 24 each floor, and then underneath is the

garage.

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You have 40 units, like I said, in each building you have 40 garages, so each unit has a garage. There is 25 garages in the building itself. That would be along the back and then on the common side.

Now, this one building does not have a set to it, so if you look at the sets you will see that there is a garage on the common side, so that's your 25 parking spaces. The other 16 spaces, 15 spaces, if my math is wrong, 15 spaces are in the stand alone garages, five spaces in each garage, three garages, that's how the building is set up.

The amenities to it would be the clubhouse, of course, and we also had a concept approval for a walking exercise type path through the wetlands that would almost equal a mile. There is quite a bit of wetlands there, so it was around the whole site, that was approved. We stopped, of course,

1 Proceedings 10 2 because of this process until we moved 3 on, and that's basically it. That's also mimicked over here on 4 5 your right which shows the difference 6 in elevation to the buildings and how 7 it falls from 303, this being the 303 8 portion. 9 You can see how the buildings 10 fall. This is built to scale. The 11 trees are not located -- these are fake 12 trees so don't get upset about that. 13 The units are step down. You can 1 4 see that the back of the building is 15 lower than the front. That's how you 16 get the garages in it. 17 The buildings themselves look like 18 this so far as proposed. This would be 19 the front of the building, and then the 20 other side is the side that does not 21 have the garages on it so that's the 22 front entrance to each building and 23 that's the side without the garages, 24 and basically that's it. 25 We had proposed, I would say,

1 Proceedings 11 2 preliminary type of plans, a concept 3 drainage plan. We had gone to United 4 Water and had some discussions with 5 them. We had concept meetings and with 6 the DOT and had submitted for a permit, 7 but all that stopped when we got into 8 this process, so I think that's about 9 it, unless you have any questions. 10 MR. YACYSHYN: Thank you, Mr. 11 Zigler. 12 MR. ZIGLER: You are welcome. 13 MR. YACYSHYN: There is no easy 14 way of handling a scoping session in an 15 environmental review such as this, 16 particularly a project of this 17 magnitude. However, we have attempted 18 to make a little, make it a little 19 easier to understand the process and 20 certainly to be able to understand it 21 after you leave tonight as to what it 22 is all about, so we prepared a copy of 23 the scoping document which we'll be 24 getting into as part of this thing, and

anybody from the public who wishes a

1	Proceedings 12
2	copy, we'll be happy to offer it to
3	you. Anyone wish any? Our secretary
4	has a copy. Do you have a copy? All
5	right.
6	All right. At this time, I am
7	going to turn it over to our special
8	planning consultant, which is Tim
9	Miller Associates in the person of the
10	Senior Planner, Ann Cutignola. Will
1 1	you take on the description.
1 2	MS. CUTIGNOLA: As Mr. Yacyshyn
13	indicated, the property is zoned for
1 4	AAR use. Implementation of that zone
1 5	requires site specific environmental
16	analysis, and that is what we are here
1 7	to discuss tonight.
18	This type of housing meets a
1 9	specific need that was identified by
2 0	the Town, and this property was
2 1	identified as meeting the necessary
2 2	criteria during the generic AAR
2 3	Floating Zone Environmental Review.
2 4	However the site must be developed
	nomover the site must be developed

in a manner that reduces the

1 Proceedings 2 environmental impacts to the greatest 3 extent possible. The draft scope is a 4 preliminary outline of the issues to be 5 studied. We are here tonight not to 6 actually address any of the issues, but 7 to make that the list of issues that 8 need to be studied is comprehensive as 9 possible. Sometimes a specific concern 10 goes hand in hand, but the objective 11 here tonight is to formulate a 12 comprehensive outline of everything 13 that needs to be studied, and the more 14 specifics that you can put forth, the 15 better the study will wind up being. 16 It's really a list of questions to be 17 asked and issues to be raised. 18 The environmental -- the draft 19 scope, which you heard referred to, it 20 already includes considerations of 21 soils and topography, surface water 22 resources, terrestrial and aquatic 23 ecology, land use and zoning, 24 transportation, community facilities

and services, and a physical impact

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1	Proceedings	1 4
2	analysis and aest	hetic resources, but
3	there again, any	specific concerns you
4	have that we can	fit into those broad
5	those pretty much	are the broad
6	categories, but y	our specific concerns,
7	we will incorpora	te them as best as we
8	can.	
9	MR. YACYSHYN	: Okay. First I will
10	start with the	any of our
11	consultants have	any comments at this
12	time?	
13	MR. MANERI:	No.
1 4	MR. LETSON:	Not at this time.
15	MR. YACYSHYN	: Mr. Sarno.
16	MR. SARNO:	I was just given this
17	scope this evenin	g, and I asked Joe for
18	the opportunity t	o make one suggestion
19	under the traffic	and transportation.
2 0	Page seven,	under the heading of
21	Analysis of Impac	ts. The last sentence
22	in there reads, "	The potential traffic
2 3	generation result	ing from the proposed
2 4	use will be estim	ated based on the most
2 5	current institute	of Transportation

1 Proceedings 15 2 Engineer's Trip Generation Manual." 3 Well, in fact there is no good set of traffic generation rates in the manual that meet this particular 5 6 condition. 7 I have been involved in at least 8 half a dozen of these studies over the 9 past two years, including both as a 10 preparer and as a reviewer, including 11 one which Tim Miller Associates has 12 prepared and which I am reviewing right 13 now. 14 What I would-- in all of these 1.5 studies, and by the way, this also 16 includes that one that we did in 17 Clarkstown on Convent Road about a year 18 ago. 19 A specific trip generation rate 20 for this type of development was 21 studied and agreed to by both the 22 applicant and the reviewer, and I would 23 suggest that that be done here, and so 24 that this last sentence be changed to 25 read, "The potential traffic generation

1 Proceedings 16 2 resulting from the proposed use will be 3 determined by the applicant in 4 consultation with the Planning Board 5 and its technical personnel," or some 6 wording like that because the only --7 the closest applicable rate in the ITE 8 Trip Generation Manual is frankly much 9 too low. 10 MR. YACYSHYN: Much too what? 11 MR. SARNO: Low. It's more 12 applicable to a development such as the 13 Ezra Dashow (ph) in Spring Valley 14 rather than an active adult. There is 15 no active adult category in the ITE 16 manual, so I would just suggest that 17 the wording be changed so that it's an 18 agreed trip generation rate between the 19 applicant and the planning. 20 MS. CUTIGNOLA: Mr. Sarno is correct on that. As we were working 21 22 through the Generic Environmental 23 Impact Statement, if you remember, we 24 actually did both at the time.

He is absolutely correct. The

2 trip generation rates that are specific 3 to seniors are really for inactive 4 seniors, so to speak, and what we did 5 do at that time was to simply use the 6 general townhouse rates which take into 7 account just as though they were 8 regular townhouses with the 9 understanding that if the traffic 10 analysis, if all of the intersections 11 work in an acceptable level under 12 traditional townhouses, then the active 13 adult would be, if anything, reduced from that slightly, so he is absolutely 14 15 correct, and we would be happy to work 16 out a reasonable rate and come to a 17 conclusion as to specifically what rate is used. 18 19 MR. YACYSHYN: Thank you. 2 0 public should be aware that there were 21 terms thrown out, one was Generic 22 Environmental Impact Statement. That 23 referred to when the Town Board in its 24 wisdom sought to adopt this active

adult residential floating zone which

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1 Proceedings 18 2 could be, under certain conditions, 3 placed anywhere in the Town itself. As I say, under certain 4 5 conditions, it wouldn't be applicable 6 everywhere. 7 A generic or broad type of 8 environmental impact study had to be 9 conducted in order to see its viability 10 and it was determined, but what was 11 required and is required is that every 12 specific site where this zone would be 13 applied, as in this case here in 14 Congers, a site specific environmental 15 impact which relates to the issues that 16 are raised and the impacts that would 17 be generated in that location have to 18 be studied individually in addition to 19 what was developed under the overall 2 0 generic environmental, so it's two 21 cracks at the apple, so to speak, to 22 make sure that all the issues are taken 23 into account, okay? Is that 2.4 understood? All right.

Members of the Board, anybody have

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1	Proceedings 19
2	any comments or questions at this time?
3	I must say that the scoping document in
4	its draft form in its draft form is
5	quite comprehensive, and of course it
6	had the benefit of the issues that were
7	involved in the generic as well.
8	Mr. Streitman.
9	MR. STREITMAN: Just a couple of
10	quick comments. I guess one would be I
11	guess for the ingress and egress of the
12	facility, one is being proposed
13	currently, there is a second?
1 4	MR. EMANUEL: Yes.
15	MR. ZIGLER: Meola Road. That
16	model was done, and then we made a
17	revision on the plans.
18	MR. EMANUEL: You want to show
19	them on the plans?
2 0	MR. ZIGLER: There was discussions
2 1	of an emergency access only so it
2 2	wouldn't become some kind of a short
2 3	cut, but this is what we were talking
2 4	about, and then sidewalks, that is
2 5	really not shown on that.

1	Proceedings 20
2	MR. STREITMAN: That was the other
3	one, sidewalks.
4	MR. SULLIVAN: Is there any
5	provision for public transportation
6	access, access to public transportation
7	on-site?
8	MR. EMANUEL: Yes, at the
9	intersection of 304.
10	MR. ZIGLER: 303.
1 1	MR. EMANUEL: I am sorry, 303.
1 2	MR. SULLIVAN: At the entrance?
13	MR. YACYSHYN: Are you suggesting
1 4	public transportation go into the site?
15	MR. SULLIVAN: No, I am not
1 6	suggesting anything. I am asking what,
1 7	if any
18	MR. EMANUEL: It would be at the
1 9	entrance. It can't go into the site
2 0	because all those roads are private
2 1	roads.
2 2	MR. SULLIVAN: With regard to
2 3	recreation, this is really for Mr.
2 4	Letson, you are proposing a walking
2 5	trail in the wetlands. Does that have

1	Proceedings 21
2	any potential negative impact on the
3	wetlands?
4	MR. LETSON: Generally not,
5	depending upon the type of surfacing
6	material and whether you are disturbing
7	the preliminary discussions with DEC.
8	Generally they limit that to like a
9	woodchip walking surface rather than
1 0	doing some kind of a hard paving or
11	anything that would generally interfere
1 2	with the wetlands functions for
1 3	continuity.
1 4	MR. SULLIVAN: I presume you will
1 5	have those discussions?
16	MR. ZIGLER: Basically, although I
1 7	said it was through the wetland, 80
18	percent of it is through the adjacent
19	area, and very little of it is through
2 0	the wetlands.
2 1	MR. SULLIVAN: You will be
2 2	cognizant of that?
2 3	MR. ZIGLER: Oh, yes.
2 4	MR. YACYSHYN: Anyone else?
2 5	Anything from the public? This matter

1 Proceedings 22 2 has been duly noticed and advertised 3 for a public hearing. Anyone wish to 4 offer any comments or questions, please 5 rise and give us your name and address. We have a microphone here. Since you 6 7 are being recorded and taped, I think 8 it is better to identify yourself. 9 MR. MARKOWITZ: My name is Elliot 10 Markowitz, 156 West Clarkstown road, 1 1 New City, New York. 12 I was just going to say the 13 general issue about trip generation, my 14 mother-in-law lives in the Lake Road 15 Condominiums, so I probably base that 16 on that. Lake Road Condominiums is a 17 de facto I think senior active 18 community, so you ought go down there. 19 That is what I would use for your trip 20 generation since you don't want to get 21 too low since most of those people 22 don't drive, but Lake Road Condominiums 23 is a mature community, I would like to 24 say, so they drive and they have

garages and that sort of stuff too, so

1	Proceedings 23
2	that may help you in your trip
3	generation.
4	MR. YACYSHYN: Thank you. Anyone
5	else? If there is nothing else
6	MR. STREITMAN: He need a motion
7	to close the public hearing.
8	MS. CUTIGNOLA: May I ask an
9	informational question since
10	MR. YACYSHYN: Can you speak into
11	the mic?
12	MS. CUTIGNOLA: I definitely can.
13	I know at previous meetings that the
1 4	applicant has been before the Planning
15	Board. There were issues raised about
16	the noise from the railroad tracks, and
17	I would like the benefit of what the
18	Planning Board's concerns are about
19	that so that they are properly
2 0	addressed in the EIF.
2 1	MR. YACYSHYN: Right. Under J on
2 2	page 8 you had the noise impacts
2 3	indicate, I think it's CSX is the
2 4	actual name of the railroad, okay.
2 5	MS. CUTIGNOLA: Okay.

1	Proceedings 24
2	MR. YACYSHYN: All right.
3	MR. SULLIVAN: Did you get an
4	answer?
5	MS. CUTIGNOLA: I did not. Did
6	you say anything? Are there
7	MR. SULLIVAN: Sure, there are
8	concerns. What would be the impact of
9	the noise from the railroad? We need
1 0	some assessment.
11	MS. CUTIGNOLA: Some assessment,
12	okay. Normally the impacts are
13	evaluated that the project would bring
1 4	with it. In this case the impact is
15	somewhat reversed, and we are going to
16	look at the impact of what the existing
17	noise from the existing operation of
18	the rail will mean to the people that
19	live there, and if that's the sum and
2 0	substance of it then that's what we'll
2 1	do.
2 2	MR. YACYSHYN: Okay. I take it
2 3	since there is no other comment at this
2 4	time, that the that it's appropriate
2 5	for a motion to close the public

_	110000411.90
2	hearing.
3	I just want to indicate that it's
4	required that the closing date of this
5	would be
6	MS. CUTIGNOLA: As advertised in
7	the notice. There is ten days from
8	today.
9	MR. YACYSHYN: Ten days from the
10	close of the public hearing to today
11	for this scoping session, so there is
12	still an opportunity to submit any
13	comments in writing to Mr. Simoes, our
1 4	Principal Town Planner as indicated,
15	okay?
1 6	All right. I will entertain a
17	motion to close the public hearing.
18	MR. SULLIVAN: Motion.
1 9	MR. TREVOR: Seconded.
2 0	MR. YACYSHYN: By Mr. Sullivan.
2 1	Who seconds?
2 2	MR. TREVOR: Second.
2 3	MR. YACYSHYN: Any discussion?
2 4	All those in favor?
2 5	(A chorus of ayes.)

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1	Proceedings 26
2	MR. YACYSHYN: Closed. Motion is
3	granted.
4	MR. EMANUEL: As a housekeeping
5	matter, I understand the public comment
6	period is being kept open. Will at
7	the close of the public comment, will
8	the scope document be deemed adopted,
9	or will we come back for another
10	meeting for that to occur?
1 1	MR. YACYSHYN: To be determined.
12	MR. EMANUEL: Based upon whatever
13	comments you may get?
14	MR. YACYSHYN: Right.
15	MŘ. EMANUEL: Fair enough.
16	MR. YACYSHYN: I think a
17	consultation will be necessary by the
18	staff, okay? So you will be advised.
19	MR. EMANUEL: Obviously we would
2 0	like to move on this as quickly as we
21	can.
2 2	MR. YACYSHYN: Of course.
2 3	MR. EMANUEL: Thank you.
2 4	
2 5	

1	CERTIFICATION 27
2	
3	STATE OF NEW YORK )
4	) ss.
5	COUNTY OF ROCKLAND )
6	I, HOWARD BRESHIN, a Court Reporter
7	and Notary Public within and for the State of New
8	York, do hereby certify:
9	That I reported the proceedings that
1 0	are hereinbefore set forth, and that such
1 1	transcript is a true and accurate record of said
12	proceedings.
1 3	I further certify that I am not
1 4	related to any of the parties to this action by
15	blood or marriage, and that I am in no way
16	interested in the outcome of this matter.
17	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto
18	set my hand.
1 9	
2 0	How Breek
2 1	HOWARD BRESHIN,
2 2	COURT REPORTER
2 3	
2 4	

22:18, 22:23

# ORCHARD RIDGE

#### 2

2010 1:5, 4:7 24 5:22 24.8 4:9, 4:17 25 9:4, 9:12 29 5:21, 6:25

### 3

30 1:5 303 4:12, 4:13, 5:18, 5:23, 6:14, 6:22, 7:17, 7:17, 8:12, 10:7, 10:7, 20:10, 20:11 304 20:9 30th 4:7 320 4:16

#### 4

40 8:18, 9:2, 9:3 426-2400 1:23

#### 5

5 4:19

#### 8

1:22, 23:22 80 21:17 8:30 1:5, 4:7

914 1:23 9W 4:13, 6:14

#### A

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# $\mathbf{B}$

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# State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA)

# FINAL

# SCOPING DOCUMENT

# Orchard Ridge

# Town of Clarkstown, Rockland County, NY

#### INTRODUCTION

This draft Scoping Document is intended to serve as the foundation for the identification of all potentially significant adverse impacts associated with the proposed action and possible mitigation measures. It is also intended to eliminate consideration of any impacts that are irrelevant or non-significant.

#### **DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTION**

The applicant, Orchard Ridge, LLC, proposes the construction of an Active Adult Residential project consisting of 320 dwellings on 29.65 acres within the Town of Clarkstown, Rockland County NY, with primary access from NYS Route 303, in addition to development of 1.5 acres of commercial property located immediately south of Meola Road. The project site has recently received a zone change to Active Adult Residential to meet the continuing need for diversity in available housing in the area.

# POTENTIAL SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

As set forth in the Positive Declaration adopted by the Lead Agency (*forthcoming*), the proposed action may have potential significant environmental impacts on:

Geology, Soils and Topography
Surface Water Resources
Terrestrial and Aquatic Resources
Land Use and Zoning
Traffic and Transportation Resources
Community Services, including emergency services, police, and fire
Fiscal Resources
Aesthetic Resources – Visual and Lighting
Noise
Construction Impacts – Air Quality

#### **GENERAL SCOPING CONSIDERATIONS**

Unless otherwise directed by this Scoping Document, the provisions of 6 NYCRR 617.9(b) apply to the content of the SDEIS and are incorporated herein by reference.

The SDEIS will assemble relevant and material facts, evaluate reasonable alternatives, and be analytical but not encyclopedic. It will also be clearly and concisely written in plain language that can be easily read and understood by the public. Highly technical material will be

summarized in the body of the SDEIS, and included in their entirety in an appendix, with an appropriate reference included in the SDEIS.

Narrative discussions will be accompanied by illustrative tables and graphics. All graphics will clearly identify the project area. Footnotes may be used as the form of citing references. Opinions of the applicant will be identified as such.

Full-scale site plans will accompany the SDEIS as an appendix and reduced copies of pertinent plan sheets and details will be included in the text of the SDEIS. The documents shall contain plans, reports, and studies meeting prevailing Federal, State and Town criteria with respect to all disciplines of study as well as Town of Clarkstown site plan standards.

#### **DEIS CONTENTS**

<u>Cover Sheet</u> listing preparers, title of project, SDEIS identification, location, Lead Agency, and relevant dates (i.e. date of acceptance, date of public hearing, final date for acceptance of comments).

<u>Table of Contents</u> including listings of tables, figures, maps, charts, and any items that may be submitted under separate cover (and identified as such).

#### I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Executive Summary will include a brief description of the proposed action and a listing of all potential environmental impacts and proposed mitigation measures. A summary will be provided of the approvals and permits required, and of the alternatives to the proposed action that are evaluated in the SDEIS.

#### II. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTION

Chapter 2 of the SDEIS will provide a description of the proposed project site and its location, a description of the proposed project, the public need and objectives of the project sponsor, and a description of required approvals, reviews, and permits.

## A. Site Location and Description

- 1. A written and graphic description of the location of the project site in the context of the Town of Clarkstown.
- 2. Description of the environmental setting of the site and the natural resources identified thereon.
- 3. Identification of any easements, rights-of-way, restrictions, special district boundaries or other legal devices affecting the subject properties' development potential.
- 4. Description of the existing infrastructure serving the project sites and/or its immediate environs.

#### B. Description of the Proposed Action

1. Written and detailed description of the proposed action, including the proposed use, acreage of impervious area proposed, acres of land to be cleared, open space to be provided, proposed schedule and phasing of

- construction, infrastructure ownership and maintenance. Small-scale plans will be provided in the SDEIS for illustrative purposes.
- 2. Identify zoning and describe existing land uses applicable to the project site.
- 3. Discuss compliance with all Zoning and Site Plan Approval standards and other criteria set forth by the Town of Clarkstown Code. The SDEIS shall identify the extent to which any modifications or waivers of such standards and other criteria or any variances from such regulations would be required to carry out the project as proposed.
- 4. Discuss the compatibility of the proposed land use with the character and development trends in the nearby area.

# C. Project Purpose and Need

- 1. Discuss the purpose or objective of the project sponsor.
- 2. Identify the public need for the proposed action, including its consistency with adopted policies and/or plans as set forth within adopted community land use and development plans.

# D. Approvals, Reviews and Permits

- 1. List and describe all required approvals, reviews, and permits required, by agency, to implement the proposed action.
- 2. List all involved and interested Agencies.

### III. ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING, EXISTING CONDITIONS, IMPACTS, MITIGATION

This section of the SDEIS will identify the existing environmental conditions, potential impacts of the action, and proposed mitigation measures as appropriate for each of the major issues identified in this Scoping Document. Sufficient detail should be provided so that reviewers are able to gain an understanding of current conditions and impacts.

The format or organization of this section will include the following subsection headings for each topic or impact issue:

Environmental Setting / Existing Conditions Potential Impacts Mitigation Measures

This format provides for a more meaningful presentation of the environmental issues that allows the reader to focus on individual impact issues.

# A. Soils and Topography

 Soils will be mapped in accordance with the Soil and Water Conservation District Soil Survey for Rockland County, New York. Evaluation of site soils will include the following:

- a. Identification and evaluation of hydric and non-hydric soils.
- b. Erosion impacts and estimated quantities and locations of increased longterm erosion.
- c. Construction methods and best management practices that will be employed to lessen erosion and to prevent sediment from migrating off-site or into nearby water bodies and wetlands including an evaluation of their effectiveness to mitigate impacts.
- d. Identification of potential soil characteristics that may require special construction techniques including a discussion on blasting and measures to protect the adjoining properties
- e. The SDEIS will describe the detailed soil erosion and sediment control plan that will accompany the text description of specific designs to be implemented during construction.
- f. Test pits and borings will be performed to verify the information included in the Soil and Water Conservation District Soil Survey for Rockland County, New York.
- 2. A topographic survey based on a two-foot contour interval will be prepared for the entire site. Existing topography will be mapped for the entire site, and proposed topography will be mapped. A comparison of existing and proposed topography will be evaluated as follows:
  - a. Graphics illustrating steep slopes and any steep slope disturbances will be provided.
  - b. A description will be provided of prominent and/or unique features including stonewalls ledges and rock outcroppings.
  - c. A grading plan will be provided and described.
  - d. A cut and fill analysis will be provided, including an analysis of the disposal of excess cut or the import of fill materials.
  - e. Excavated materials retained and utilized on site will be evaluated for the adequacy of their intended use on-site.
  - f. Measures to minimize cut and fill activities will be described.
  - **g.** Phasing of proposed disturbances will be described.

#### B. Surface and Ground Water Resources

#### Drainage

- A drainage study defining existing and post-development peak rates of stormwater runoff and stormwater quality treatment during the statistical 2-, 10-, 25-, and 100-year, 24-hour Type III storm events, will be completed. The results of this study will be summarized in the SDEIS text and all supporting calculations will be presented in the appendix to the SDEIS. Specifically, the drainage study will include the following:
  - a. A definition of all existing drainage basins, watersheds, and drainage structures, including a graphic illustrating all divides of drainage basins which discharge from the project to adjacent properties shall be shown on pre- and post development watershed maps. A description of each such drainage basin will be provided in the appendix to the SDEIS. The descriptions will include the specific characteristics (e.g., size, composition, etc.) of all drainage structures and a summary of the path of flow from the project to receiving water bodies.
  - b. The drainage analysis shall include identification of off-site drainage ways which flow to of from the site.
  - c. An analysis of the extent and depth to groundwater.
  - d. Calculation of pre- and post-development runoff quality and outline of treatment methods per current NYSDEC Design Standards.
  - e. The SDEIS will provide a stormwater management plan defining all measures and procedures to be implemented so as to ensure compliance with prevailing discharge standards. Such measures, if necessary, will include conveyance systems and retention/detention facilities and devices. All proposed measures and procedures will be selected in accordance with the current NYSDEC Design Standards. General design guidelines for stormwater infrastructure will be described for future phases.

#### Wetlands

- a. Location and description of all wetlands and watercourses with corresponding jurisdiction will be discussed.
- b. Delineate and flag the boundary of all State and Federal Jurisdictional Wetlands in accordance with the methodology provided in the 1987 Army Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual; boundaries to be confirmed by the permit agencies.
- c. Discuss wetland vegetative cover, soil classification, and wetland benefits including flood and erosion control, recreation, and wildlife habitat.

- d. Calculate the area of proposed wetland disturbance based on grading plans to quantify any impact and to provide a basis for degree of mitigation.
- f. Discuss mitigation measures that may be required to prevent soil erosion and sedimentation of wetlands during construction at the subdivision, project any other appropriate scales.

#### C. Flora and Fauna

## 1. Vegetation

- a. Contact the NYS DEC and Federal Fish and Wildlife Service to identify and evaluate the possible presence of unique, rare and/or endangered, threatened and special concern species.
- b. A field assessment shall be conducted by a qualified professional to evaluate the presence of unique, rare and/or endangered, threatened and special concern species.
- c. Evaluate the potential impacts on the resources identified. Mitigate if necessary, and conduct on-site surveys as required.

#### 2. Fish and Wildlife

- a. Contact the NYS DEC and Federal Fish and Wildlife Service to identify and evaluate the possible presence of unique, rare and/or endangered, threatened and special concern species.
- b. A field assessment shall be conducted by a qualified professional to evaluate the presence of unique, rare and/or endangered, threatened and special concern species.
- c. Evaluate the potential impacts on the resources identified, including a quantitative assessment of potential removal or disturbance of existing wildlife and habitat areas, and necessary mitigation measures designed to offset, reduce, or eliminate such losses.
- **d.** Evaluate the potential impacts on the resources identified. Mitigate if necessary, and conduct on-site surveys as required.

### D. Land Use and Zoning

- 1. Describe existing land uses of the subject property and the surrounding area.
- 2. Discuss the compatibility of the proposed project with the character and development trends of the surrounding area.
- 3. Discuss potential impacts on adjacent land uses and appropriate mitigation for the action.
- 4. Describe zoning for the project site and immediate vicinity.
- 5. Discuss conformance of the project with the Town's adopted comprehensive plan and other local and county planning documents.
- 6. Discuss the project's compliance with all subdivision and site plan standards and other criteria set forth by the Town of Clarkstown Code. This discussion shall clearly indicate the extent to which any modifications or waivers of such standards and other criteria or any variances from such regulations would be required to carry out the project as proposed.

# E. Transportation

- 1. Methodology Existing traffic conditions will be compared to conditions that would be anticipated from implementation of the proposed action, including the potential impacts of the proposed commercial property immediately south of Meola Road. The traffic analysis will evaluate roadway and intersection characteristics, volumes and traffic controls. The study will address potential impacts associated with implementation of the proposed action, and will identify proposed traffic and safety improvements or other mitigation measures designed to lessen the impact of the project on the adjacent road network if required. Intersection analyses and methodologies shall conform to current ITE practices. All of the data collected and analyzed will be summarized in maps or tables.
- 2. <u>Study Area Intersections</u> Data collection will include counts and turning movements at the following intersection locations:
  - NY Route 303 and Hemlock Drive
  - NY Route 303 and US Route 9W
  - NY Route 303 and County Road 80
  - NY Route 303 and Meola Road
  - NY Route 303 and Brenner Drive
  - NY Route 303 and Heather Road
- 3. <u>Peak Hours</u> -- The AM and PM peak hour traffic volume counts will be conducted on a Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday while school is in session.
- 4. Roadway Analysis -- Existing streets will be inventoried to determine street widths, speed limits, number of travel lanes, existing land uses, sight

- distance measurements at intersections with restrictive conditions, traffic controls, signs, signals and markings, and traffic signal type and timing.
- 5. Analysis of Impacts The analysis will include evaluation of other known area projects at the time that the TIS is undertaken that may impact the proposal; these projects will be identified in cooperation with Town of Clarkstown Planning staff. A build year will be identified. The capacity of each intersection for the existing, no-build, and build conditions will be calculated. Traffic analyses will also analyze proposed project access intersections for the Build Condition. The potential traffic generation resulting from the proposed use will be estimated based on the most current Institute of Transportation Engineer's *Trip Generation Manual*. Trip Generation rates will be reviewed by the Planning Board's Traffic consultant and adjusted as necessary to more accurately reflect the specific AAR land use.
- 6. <u>Public Transportation and Pedestrian movement The SDEIS shall evaluate</u> the need for alternative forms of transportation, including, but not limited to Public Transportation including T.R.I.P.S., pedestrian and bicycle facilities,.
- 7. <u>Mitigation</u> -- Mitigation in the form of recommendations for roadway and intersection improvements, traffic controls, signal modification, timing revision, and future monitoring, shall be identified, including co-ordination of roadway improvements with other projects along NYS Route 303 in the vicinity of the project.

# F. Community Facilities and Services (Utilities)

- The Proposed project may create the need for additional community services including police and fire protection, emergency services, utilities (water, sewer, gas and electricity) and solid waste disposal. Each service area will be quantitatively described as to its existing capacity.
- The impact of the proposed project on each service area will be estimated, according to generally accepted practices. Potential impacts will consider the capacity of existing infrastructure to handle the additional demand, and the potential need for improvements, if necessary.
- 3. Mitigation measures will be discussed including increasing the capacity of each of the community service areas as a result of the proposed action.

### G. Fiscal Impact Analysis

1. The proposed action will add up to 320 Active Adult households to the Town of Clarkstown. This increase in population may translate into the need for enhanced community services, including police, ambulance and fire protection. Additional demand for services may translate into additional costs to the community to meet the service demand. Accordingly, a fiscal impact analysis will be prepared to compare the revenues that would be generated by the proposed project compared with costs to service it.

- 2. The fiscal impact analysis will comprehensively inventory the costs and revenues associated with the proposed action and realistically assign dollar values to them.
- 3. Special care will be taken to explain the assumptions, calculations and results of the fiscal impact analysis in clear and understandable language.

## I. Aesthetic Resources

- 1. Describe through the use of narrative text, models, photographs and photographic simulations, plans, sections, visual sight lines, or other graphic representations, the visual character of the proposed action and its environs.
- 2. The analysis will describe:
  - a. The existing visual character, including a discussion on any existing structures or other improvements that need to be removed or remediated
  - b. The change in visual character resulting from implementation of the proposed action both internal to the project and from the surrounding area.
  - c. Mitigation measures proposed to lessen the visual impact of the proposed action including but not limited to such matters as landscaping, preservation of existing vegetation, and preservation of existing topography.

# J. Noise Impacts

#### 1. Noise

- a. Description of existing ambient noise levels, including discussion of the CSX rail road operations.
- b. Discuss potential construction-related noise impacts.
- c. Discuss mitigation measures to be incorporated in the design of the proposed action, to reduce construction noise and to attenuate the noise associated with the CSX railroad operations on the future residents of Orchard Ridge as necessary.

### K. Air Quality

#### 1. Air Resources

- a. Identify the type of the construction activities proposed and the identify impacts that may result.
- b. Discuss mitigation measures to avoid potential construction-related air quality impacts.

# IV. UNAVOIDABLE ADVERSE IMPACTS

This section of the SDEIS will identify impacts that are likely to occur despite mitigation measures, and will assess the adverse implications of these unavoidable impacts.

#### V. ALTERNATIVES

This section of the SDEIS will evaluate and compare alternatives to the proposed action, which are listed below. The following alternatives will be studied:

- **A.** The "No Action" Alternative as required under 6 NYCRR 617.9.b.5.
- **B.** Alternative Site Plan Layout Previous Zoning LIO Development

#### VI. IRREVERSIBLE AND IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENT OF RESOURCES

Identification of those natural and man-made resources consumed, converted or otherwise made unavailable for future use as a consequence of the proposed action.

#### VII. GROWTH INDUCING ASPECTS

A description and analysis of potential growth-inducing aspects of the project will be provided. Special attention will be paid to how the development of the proposed action might affect local business, population characteristics, community character and community services.

#### VIII. EFFECTS ON THE USE AND CONSERVATION OF ENERGY RESOURCES

A description of the effect of the proposed action on the short and long term use and conservation of energy resources will be provided including ways to reduce inefficient or unnecessary consumption during construction and long term operation.

#### IX. APPENDICES

The appendices will include a list of all underlying studies and reports relied upon in preparing the SDEIS, technical exhibits and studies (including the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan, Traffic Impact Study, Wetland Delineations, background information relevant to the proposed action such as this Scoping Document and other relevant SEQR documents, a list of involved and interested agencies, and relevant correspondence with involved agencies and persons.

# X. Distribution

A copy of this document will be sent to the following:

# Lead Agency

Shirley Thormann, Chairperson Town of Clarkstown Planning Board Clarkstown Town Hall, 10 Maple Avenue New City, NY 10956

# **Involved Agencies**

Federal

Brian Orzel United States Army Corps of Engineers Jacob Javits Federal Building 26 Federal Plaza New York, NY 10278-0090

New York State

Commissioner NYS Department of Environmental Conservation 625 Broadway Albany, NY 12233

Regional Permit Administrator NYS Department of Environmental Conservation Region 3 21 South Putt Corners Road New Paltz, NY 12561

Commissioner NYS Department of Transportation Region 8, SEQR Unit 4 Burnett Boulevard Poughkeepsie, NY 12603

Mary Jo Russo P.E., Rockland County Permit Engineer NYS DOT Regional Office 275 Ridge Road New City, NY 10956

### Rockland County

Salvatore Corallo, Commissioner Rockland County Planning Department 239 GML Referral Robert L. Yeager Health Center Building T, 50 Sanatorium Road, Pomona, NY 10970

Joan Facelle, M. D., Commissioner of Health Rockland County Department of Health Robert L. Yeager Health Center Building D, 50 Sanatorium Road Pomona, NY 10970

Diane Phillips P.E., Executive Director Rockland County Sewer District No. 1 4 Route 340 Orangeburg, NY 10962

#### Town of Clarkstown

Shirley Thormann, Chairperson Clarkstown Planning Board - Site Plan Approval 10 Maple Avenue New City, New York 10956

Dennis Letson P.E. Clarkstown Department of Environmental Control - Sewer Permit 10 Maple Avenue New City, New York 10956

Edward Lettre Clarkstown Architectural and Landscape Commission 10 Maple Avenue New City, New York 10956

### **Interested Agencies**

Alex J. Gromack, Supervisor Clarkstown Town Board 10 Maple Avenue New City, New York 10956

David Carlucci, Town Clerk Town of Clarkstown 10 Maple Avenue New City, New York 10956 Amy Mele, Esq. Clarkstown Town Attorney 10 Maple Avenue New City, New York 10956

Charles Maneri Clarkstown Building Department 10 Maple Avenue New City, New York 10956

Peter T. Noonan, Chief Clarkstown Police Department 20 Maple Avenue New City, NY 10956

Frank Heinemann, Chief Congers Fire District #13 64 Lake Road Congers, NY 10920

Chief

Congers-Valley Cottage Volunteer Ambulance 84 N Route 9W Congers, NY 10920

Dr. Margaret Keller-Cogan Clarkstown Central School District 62 Old Middletown Road New City, NY 10956

Charles Vezzetti Rockland County Department of Highways 23 New Hempstead Road New City, New York 10956

Ruth Pierpont NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation Historic Preservation Field Services Bureau, Peebles Island, PO Box 189 Waterford, NY 12188-0189

Commissioner NYS Department of Health Corning Tower, Empire State Plaza Albany, NY 12237

# Project Applicant

Orchard Ridge, LLC. C/o Pomona Golf, 6 Station Road, Pomona NY 10970

# **Project Attorney**

Ira Emmanuel, Esq. C/o Freeman Loftus and Manley, 4 Laurel Road, New City NY 10956

# EIS Preparer

TIM MILLER ASSOCIATES, INC. 10 North Street, Cold Spring, NY 10516

# Land Surveyor

ATZL, SCATASSA & ZIGLER, PC 234 North Main Street, New City, NY 10956

# Stormwater Management Engineer

ATZL, SCATASSA & ZIGLER, PC 234 North Main Street, New City, NY 10956