

TO THE RESIDENTS OF THE VILLAGE OF ATHENS - ZONING LAW REVIEW PROCESS

As you may be aware, a zoning review process for amending the Village Zoning Law is being undertaken in the Village of Athens. This letter will set forth the process for this review so that every citizen is aware of the zoning review and adoption process and hopefully answer any questions or concerns.

The current zoning for the Village of Athens needs to be updated as it dates back to 1982. The Village seeks to update its zoning code to reflect the vision, goals, objectives and recommendations expressed in the adopted Comprehensive Plan. As such, the existing code is more than 25 years old and needs to be revised to reflect modern standards and changing conditions in the Village.

The Village and Town of Athens undertook a joint comprehensive planning process which was comprised of many public workshops over an 18 month period to develop and adopt a comprehensive plan that would work for the future of both the Village and Town of Athens. Copies of this comprehensive plan can be found at the Village offices, the D.R. Everts Library and on line at planningbetterplaces.com under client pages.

Attached to this notice you will find zoning review and adoption steps for amending the Village Zoning Law. At this stage (prior to Step 1), a zoning implementation committee is presently reviewing **recommended zoning changes** from the planning consultant. The committee meets at the Athens Community Center, Two First Street at 6:30 p.m. These are OPEN meetings to the public, but **not public input** meetings. However, written comments can be submitted to the Committee Chairperson, Mark Levenway, Chairman, Zoning Implementation Committee, Two First Street, Athens, New York 12015. The Committee review is important so that accurate information goes before the public in a timely way for their review. The zoning implementation committee will take at least several more months to review the recommended changes to the zoning code. The minutes of the meetings of this committee, as well as their meeting dates and other pertinent information can be found on planningbetterplaces.com.

Once the zoning implementation committee completes their review of the recommended zoning changes, **they will offer their recommendations and**

THE ZONING REVIEW AND ADOPTION PROCESS WILL BEGIN WITH STEP 1

THE VILLAGE BOARD ENCOURAGES ALL RESIDENTS TO BECOME INVOLVED IN THIS PUBLIC HEARING PROCESS, BUT ONCE AGAIN WE ARE STILL SEVERAL MONTHS AWAY FROM STEP 1.

Should you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Village on 945-1551, or visit the website on planningbetterplaces.com.