



Letter of Renewed Commitment to Memorandum of Agreement with Respect to the Saw Mill River Watershed

~~Town/Village~~/City of Yonkers

Through this letter the ~~Town/Village~~/City of Yonkers, a member of the Saw Mill Watershed Advisory Board, wishes to express its renewed commitment to the mid-2000s *Memorandum of Agreement with Respect to the Saw Mill River Watershed* as signed by our Mayor & Council on the date of 9/25/20 (as attached), as well as to the Saw Mill River Coalition strategies as detailed in the 5-Year Action Plan.

With the advance in scientific understanding of the impacts of climate change on the livelihood of our communities and the health of our local estuaries, it is important, now more than ever, to reiterate our commitment to take both local and county-wide actions for mitigating the growing challenges faced by the Saw Mill River Watershed. These include among others, an increase in extreme rain events and flooding, loss of natural habitat, water pollution and the spread of invasive species.

To further emphasize our renewed commitment to the goals and objectives of the *Memorandum of Agreement* and the *5-Year Action Plan*, we hereby commit to take the following local actions within the next 24 months:

1. Raise the existing Clunie Ave berm adjacent to the Saw Mill River between Hearst St & Tompkins Ave.
2. Raise the Odell Ave berm, along Nepperhan Ave between Odell Ave and Executive Blvd.
3. Remove the existing concrete dam structure located in the Saw Mill River adjacent to the Yonkers Water treatment plant.

READ AND AGREED:



dated: 3/11/21

By: Paul Summerfield, City Engineer

RESOLUTION NO.84-2020

BY COUNCIL PRESIDENT KHADER, MAJORITY LEADER PINEDA-ISAAC, MINORITY LEADER BREEN, COUNCILMEMBERS WILLIAMS, DIAZ, RUBBO AND MERANTE:

RESOLUTION APPROVING RENEWED COMMITMENT TO
MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH RESPECT TO THE SAW MILL
WATERSHED

WHEREAS, on or about March 17, 2006, the City of Yonkers entered into a Memorandum of Agreement with other cooperating Westchester County municipalities in order to improve their relationship with the Saw Mill River ("River") and the Saw Mill River Watershed ("Watershed"), improve the health, ecology, economic and recreation potential of the River; and create the Saw Mill Watershed Advisory Board ("SWAB"); and

WHEREAS, SWAB has worked together with the County of Westchester, the US Army Corp of Engineers, and the Saw Mill River Coalition, among others, over the last two decades to address issues of flooding, storm water management, improving water quality, increasing public access and improving aesthetics; and

WHEREAS, the SWAB has determined that cooperation has and will continue to result in enhanced opportunities for the River, Watershed, and the partner municipalities; and

WHEREAS, the SWAB has worked with partner stakeholders to develop a 5 year action plan for the management of the Watershed; and

WHEREAS, the SWAB now seeks a renewed commitment from its members to the goals and objectives of the Memorandum of Agreement and the 5-year Action Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Yonkers seeks to continue its involvement in SWAB and the undertaking to improve the River and the Watershed; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the City expressly renews its commitment to the Memorandum of Agreement and its commitment to the strategies detailed in the 5-year Action Plan; and be it further

RESOLUTION NO.84-2020 (CONTINUED)

RESOLVED, that a review pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act ("SEQRA") and its implementing regulations, 6 NYCRR Part 617; was conducted as required by the original IMA, and the above change in scope and a negative declaration was issued thereto; and be it further

RESOLVED, that Mayor or his authorized designee is hereby empowered to execute all instruments and take all actions reasonable and necessary to effectuate the purposes hereof; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this resolution will take effect immediately.

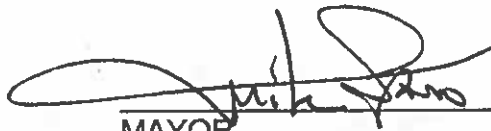
THIS RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL AT A STATED MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2020 BY A VOTE OF 7-0



COUNCIL PRESIDENT

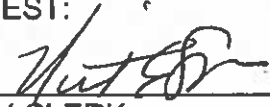
09-18-20
DATE

SENT TO MAYOR 09-18-20
DATE



MAYOR

APPROVED 9/25/20
DATE

ATTEST:


CITY CLERK

9/30/20
DATE

Memorandum of Agreement
with respect to the
Saw Mill River Watershed

WHEREAS, the undersigned cooperating municipalities wish to explore mutually beneficial ways of sharing information and resources to improve their relationship with the Saw Mill River (the "River") and the Saw Mill River Watershed (the "Watershed"), as well as improve the health, ecology, economic and recreation potential of the River itself.

WHEREAS, the undersigned cooperating municipalities share a number of common goals, including flood prevention, storm water management, non-point source pollution remediation and prevention, sustainable land use and open space resource preservation.

WHEREAS, the undersigned cooperating municipalities realize that the River, as a tributary of the Hudson River, links their communities and that, therefore, land use decisions made by any municipality in the Watershed can adversely impact downstream municipalities as well as the habitat for the River's flora and fauna.

WHEREAS, the undersigned cooperating municipalities believe it is in their joint best interest to cooperate on addressing common issues relating to the River such as, for example:

- flooding;
- storm water management;
- improving water quality;
- increasing public access/recreational opportunities; and
- improving aesthetics and restoring native vegetation.

WHEREAS, the undersigned cooperating municipalities have been requested through the Saw Mill River Coalition to participate in a natural resource watershed management plan for the Watershed, initiated by Westchester County Department of Planning and the US Army Corps of Engineers.

WHEREAS, the undersigned cooperating municipalities have agreed to work together with the Saw Mill River Coalition on projects to address the aforementioned issues, which projects may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- a. securing and sharing the public and private grants available to address issues pertaining to the River and the Watershed;
- b. providing information and input for the natural resource watershed management plan;
- c. coordinating the efforts of individual municipalities to ensure their compatibility;
- d. addressing federal storm water mandates, including the joint implementation of new technologies and joint training opportunities;
- e. developing educational programs on watershed planning, pollution prevention, and storm water management; and
- f. drafting sample language, which could be incorporated into the land use legislation of the cooperating municipalities, pertaining to development within the Watershed that protects the Watershed corridor's ability to function as necessary to prevent flooding and the degradation of water quality and water habitat.

WHEREAS, the undersigned cooperating municipalities agree, that cooperation pursuant to this Memorandum of Agreement will result in, among other things:

- a. enhanced opportunities when applying for grants to fund mutually beneficial projects in respect of the River and the Watershed; and
- b. a more efficient and cost-effective approach to implementing current and future projects pertaining thereto.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That we, the duly appointed representatives of the undersigned cooperating municipalities hereby voluntarily enter into this MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH RESPECT TO THE WATERSHED, and hereby agree to work together to achieve mutually beneficial projects in respect of the Watershed;

2. That the cooperating municipalities will communicate regularly, using the Saw Mill River Coalition as an organizing forum and means of communication, to assess progress made in achieving the projects envisioned hereunder;

3. That the cooperating municipalities hereby agree, that any cooperating municipality shall have the right, at any time, to withdraw from this agreement upon written notice to the other parties hereto; and

4. That this Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original but all which, when taken together, shall constitute one and the same instrument.

EXECUTED ON BEHALF OF THE COOPERATING MUNICIPALITIES BY
THEIR REPRESENTATIVES THERETO DULY AUTHORIZED:

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| FOR THE VILLAGE OF ARDSLEY: October 20, 2005 | Name: George F. Calvi Title: Village Manager |
| FOR THE VILLAGE OF DOBBS FERRY: November 22, 2005 | Name: Title: Board of Trustees |
| FOR THE VILLAGE OF ELMSFORD: November 21, 2005 | Name: Robert Willaims Title: Mayor |
| FOR THE TOWN OF GREENBURGH: April 11, 2007 | Name: Title: Town Board |
| FOR THE VILLAGE OF HASTINGS-ON-HUDSON: February 20, 2007 | Name: Title: Board of Trustees |
| FOR THE VILLAGE OF IRVINGTON: October 17, 2005 | Name: Donald Marra Title: Village Administrator |
| FOR THE TOWN OF MOUNT PLEASANT: February 28, 2006 | Name: Robert F. Meehan Title: Supervisor |
| FOR THE TOWN OF NEW CASTLE: January 10, 2006 | Name: Title: Board of Trustees |
| FOR THE VILLAGE OF PLEASANTVILLE: January 8, 2007 | Name: Title: Board of Trustees |
| FOR THE VILLAGE OF SLEEPY HOLLOW: | Name: Title: |
| FOR THE VILLAGE OF TARRYTOWN: November 21, 2005 | Name: Title: Board of Trustees |
| FOR THE CITY OF YONKERS: March 17, 2006 | Name: Title: City Council |