

VILLAGE OF SHERMAN

HOME OF THE YORKER MUSEUM

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October 15th, 2024

Ms. Karen Utz, Regional Director
Regional Economic Development Council
95 Perry St., Ste. 500
Buffalo, NY 14203

RE: VILLAGE OF SHERMAN - NY FORWARD GRANT APPLICATION ROUND 3

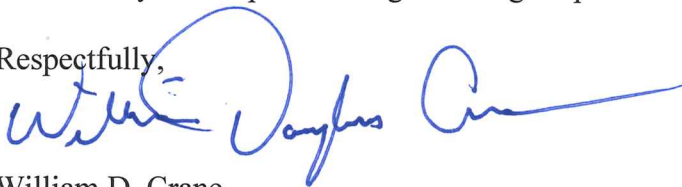
Dear Ms. Utz,

As the Streets Superintendent and water operator for the Village of Sherman for over 22 years, and lifelong resident, I have seen the Sherman community transition from traditional small family farming to more of a bedroom community with people commuting to work. This requires the businesses to adapt, and instead of solely relying on the local regular's early morning breakfasts and lunches, now its about drawing visitors made up of evening and weekend crowds, this involves marketing and collaboration of business owners. We've watched the small grocery, and agricultural related retailers go out of business, and the COVID pandemic striking quite a blow. The Village municipality, our non-profit organizations, and some key entrepreneurs have been diligently working the last few years to revitalize the downtown and stimulate the local economy. We've all been volunteering, grant writing, and investing in capital projects.

In 2024, the Village completed the final \$2.2M phase of the Drinking Water Improvements, which originally began in 2002 with the first installation of the new water mains. The 45-year-old wastewater treatment plant underwent \$7M in upgrades and the deteriorating stormwater pipes are currently being replaced on Main Street. There are a host of smaller but equally, if not more impactful projects the Village has undertaken to improve the lives of the residents and businesses in Sherman.

Since 2017, the Villag Board has been focused on building a "stable and sustainable" community, that carried through COVID and continues with the transformation to becoming a trail community. The Village is engaged in the regional effort toward ecotourism and agritourism. Our Complete Streets Initiative extending and widening sidewalks, installing crosswalks, and providing ADA accessibility are all part of the greater region plans for connectivity.

Respectfully,



William D. Crane
Streets Superintendent

"Preserving our Past... Working for our Future"

THE HONORABLE COLLEEN MEEDER, MAYOR

DEPUTY MAYOR RYAN SANDERS

TRUSTEES DENNIS WATSON, GARY EMORY & DANIEL CRANE

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