

From: **Eileen Ruddy** <emcmruddy@gmail.com>

Date: Mon, Mar 9, 2015 at 1:23 PM

Subject: Town of Monroe Village of Kiryas Joel 500+ Acre Annexation

To: tim@timillerassociates.com

To whom it may concern,

My husband and I moved to our home in Monroe in 2008. One of the reasons we purchased here was for the rural nature of the community. My home is surrounded by trees. I am within walking distance from Sterling Forest and the Appalachian Trail. I believe in preserving open spaces for future generations to enjoy.

I am concerned that the possibility of this annexation and multitude of negative impacts that it will have not only on those of us in Monroe, but to the entire county as well, if Kiryas Joel is allowed to double in size.

There will be an increase in traffic on already heavily traveled roads. Pollution from the additional car, bus, and truck traffic will negatively impact air quality in Monroe and surrounding towns.

Our sewage treatment is near or at capacity. It cannot handle the additional waste that doubling the size of the community will mean.

Add to the above the fact that 93% of Kiryas Joel residents utilize some form of public assistance. Orange county cannot afford for our tax dollars to support the community's lifestyle choices. Some will say that they do not utilize other government programs. There are more people that don't use any government assistance their entire lives. The programs were put into place as a safety net. Not a way of life.

The village of Kiryas Joel has shown a blatant disregard for the environment and our environmental laws. There are stacks of DEC violations against the village and businesses within.

If this annexation is allowed to proceed the current rural residential zoning will immediately be changed to allow for high rise condominiums. Blacktop asphalt will replace a lush green backdrop. Wildlife will be displaced and wetlands will most assuredly be disturbed.

This annexation should not be allowed as it simply does nothing to benefit the town of Monroe.

Thank you for your consideration.

Eileen Ruddy