Т	OWN OF YORKTOWN PLANNING BOARD
	PUBLIC HEARING OF DRAFT EIS
AN	D SITE PLAN FOR THE APPLICANT
	COSTCO WHOLESALE RETAILER
	1974 Commerce Street Yorktown Heights, New York October 15, 2012 7:35 p.m.
	PUBLIC HEARING
	CARBONE & ASSOCIATES, LTD. Eunice Tecun-Patchen 111 North Central Park Avenue Hartsdale, New York 10530

1	APPEARANCES:
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3	RICHARD FON, CHAIRMAN
4	JOHN KINCART, BOARD MEMBER
5	JOHN SAVOCA, BOARD MEMBER
6	JOHN FLYNN, BOARD MEMBER
7	DARLENE RIVERA, BOARD MEMBER
8	DAVE PAGANELLI, TOWN BOARD MEMBER AND PLANNING BOARD
9	LIAISON
10	LISA HOCHMAN, PLANNING BOARD'S SEQRA COUNSEL
11	ANN KUTTER, ESQ. (RECUSED)
12	LORRAINE DESISTO, PLANNING DEPARTMENT
13	JOHN TEGEDER, DIRECTOR OF PLANNING
14	ROBYN STEINBERG, TOWN PLANNER
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MR. FON: Ann Kutter just recused herself. The next item on the docket, I am everybody is here for, is Costco. I am going to read you a statement and then we will proceed. Again, good evening, welcome to the public hearing of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and site plan application for Costco. We, the Board, would like to thank you all for taking time out of your busy schedule to help us work with you with processing this application.

Please understand that the Planning Board is the designated lead agency for the environmental review of the proposed project under the State Environmental Quality Review Act, SEQRA. This mean that the various agencies with the decisions to make concerning the proposed action, basically answer to the Planning Board, we are responsible for the review.

As we open tonight's next meeting, I want to make a few preliminary remarks to make sure that all interested parties understand the purpose of tonight's meeting and hearing and set our expectations about

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what we want to accomplish tonight.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We can't hear back here.

MR. FON: You can't hear? Any better? Okay, sorry. The purpose of SEQRA is to insure that the environmental factors are considered in the agency decisions. SEQRA provides a full disclosure of any potential significant negative environmental impacts of the proposed action, it requires that identification are compliant with the measures to mitigate such impacts.

It also requires that the lead agency consider alternatives to the proposed action. The DEIS that was circulated last month addresses these topics among others. This hearing as well as the prescribed period for written comments, following the hearing is the publics opportunity to comment, but equally and importantly ask specific questions concerning the DEIS. What that means is, you come up, and

then you just make a comment, in the note it is going to say comment, noted. If you have a question, be specific about the question

	Proceedings 5
1	so it does get it does get answered.
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	As you know, on September 13, 2010,
3	the Planning Board made a determination of
4	significance by adopting a positive
5	declaration, which required the applicant to
6	prepare the Enviromental Impact Statement.
7	On November 8th of 2010, we conducted
8	a public scoping session that identified the
9	relevant environmental issues to be
10	addressed in the Draft EIS. The Final EIS
11	scope was adopted on December 13, 2010.
12	Over the ensuing months, the applicant and
13	the Planning Board with its staff and
14	consultants prepared a Draft EIS, which we
15	believe addresses all of the items raised in
16	the adopted EIS scope.
17	After several months and multiple
18	revisions, the Planning Board accepted the
19	Draft EIS as adequate last month. Many
20	professionals and experts were involved in
21	the preparation of this Draft EIS.
22	In addition to the applicant's
23	consultants, the Planning Board has its own
24	set of very competent professionals who
25	helped ensure the Draft EIS meets the

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requirements of SEQRA, as well as the expectations of this board.

On September 24, 2012, the Draft EIS was circulated to all involved agencies and was made available to all interested parties and the public. If you haven't already had a chance to look at it, you can find it in the library, it is also in the Planning Department, and it is also in the town's website.

I also want to note for the record, that the notice of this hearing was published September 28, 2012, in the Journal News. Notice was also posted on the E&B in the town's website. Tonight's public hearing is part of a public comment and question process required under SEQRA.

As I mentioned, we have provided the Planing Board with an opportunity to hear your questions and comments about the Draft EIS. We view this as a necessary and critical to the decision making process. We are eager to hear what you have to say and expect this meeting to proceed in a civil and structured manner, so that the legal

process set forth will work and be productive. If you respect the process, it is going to work.

Come up and make your question and comments, keep it like that and I am sure it will work a nice pace. In addition to the public testimony we receive here today, written comments will accepted until a minimum of ten days following the close of the public hearing. We'll give you the opportunity to extend it.

Any written comments can be sent to John Tegeder from the Planning Department, at 1974 Commerce Street, Yorktown Heights, New York, 10598. It is very important that you understand that neither the Planning Board Member nor representatives of the applicant intend to answer any questions tonight. This isn't a debate, this is what is going to happen. Whoever signed this list will come up, ask their question, there is a stenographer here who will be recording it into the record and they will answer when it is final.

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The Planning Board is not here to

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express any views, pro or con about the project. Although, we will be listening very carefully -- excuse me, and a transcript will be prepared so we can closely review all your comments. Your comments and questions will then be addressed in the Final EIS.

Please be sure to sign the sign-in sheets located on the table at the entrance, you will be called up in the order you signed in. We will make sure every effort to make sure everyone who has signed in tonight has an opportunity to speak and be heard.

However, we may need to limit your time, we are going to shoot for about five minutes. When it starts to get to the five minutes are going to ask you to speed it up. As we are all well aware there are some persons who feel we were retained to review this document, alright. They obviously will have a lot more to say.

> We ask that if you could respectfully summarize what they have and submit their documents to John. Our responsibility

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tonight is to ensure that each one of you has an opportunity to be heard. We will insist on civility and respect throughout the entire course of this meeting.

Giving the large turnout, we ask that -- we will limit your time to five minutes. Bear in mind we urge you to make the most of your time. If you belong to an organized group, which we know there are many, we ask that you consider electing a lead speaker to address the group's comments. Try to avoid any derogatory comments and the such.

Questions and comments on points that have not already been brought up. If you need more time, we ask that you wait to speak again after everybody has had a chance to. If you have again, prepared written comments tonight, please submit them to Robin and if you are planning to speak in addition to submitting written comments, please just give a summary of what you are reading. Again, please send all comments to

John Tegeder in the Planning Department or

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Robin tonight. Upon the close of the public comment period, a Final EIS will be prepared. This document will primarily consists of the Planning Board responses to all substantive comments received during the public comment period. Rest assured the Final EIS will respond to all substantive comments and questions spoken tonight.

Next, there will be a brief presentation by the applicant to show the project, immediately following the applicant's presentation, we will open the floor as per this list to public comments. Finally, we are being taped by Tom here and the tape will have to be reset every 83 minutes, we will have to take a short break.

Again, we need your comments to be clearly stated up here and we look forward to a good dialogue tonight. To the list. Patricia Dineen, 1865 Hunterbrook Road -oh, I am sorry, I jumped ahead. The applicant is next, I am sorry.

MR. CAPELLINI: Al Capellini, 1767 Front Street, Yorktown Heights, New York, local counsel for a retail store,

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Construction Co., Inc. and the developer of the project and in contract with many of the four parcels involved in that site. Due to the lack of interest in this application, I will try to keep my comments short in keeping with my height, but I would like to point out that we do have with us several professional consultants who will make their presentation of this project to you all.

We understand the ground rules that we are not to respond to comments made by the public, but to save those responses to the Final Enviromental Impact Statement that will be compiled. We will respect that and we will not respond to anything made here.

Even though points will need responses, they will come at a later time, on a later stage. I want to point out that the site is in the C-3 Zone, it is eighteen plus acres, it is on the premium land mass in the Town of Yorktown for a commercial endeavor. It has a huge frontage on a minor road known as the Taconic State Parkway and it has a significant frontage on the state highway, Route 202.

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Because of the strategic value it has a regional importance and it is pointed out in the comprehensive plan, that this area known as the Crompound triangle is in need of a regional drawer, and that discussion centered early on this site. I ask that you review the comprehensive plan, I know you will. The question of the village-type settings was really to that portion of the triangle, which is west of Old Crompound Road.

Now, let me introduce to you the presenters. We have Nick Panayotou, of TRC, they are the engineering firm and the spirit of this project. Then will be Dr. Philip Grealy, a resident of our community from Collins Engineering, who will discuss traffic issues, which I know no one has interest in.

Then we have -- who else do we have? We have Vincent Ferrandino of Ferrandino and Associates, who will talk to you about the economic and fiscal impacts of the project on the community and Erich Brann, who will speak to you from Costco's perspective, he

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is the regional developing director and he is quiet a nice chap and he will give you an insight into how Costco operates. So, with that I would like to call on Nick Panayotou of TRC Engineers.

MR. PANAYOTOU: Thank you all. Members of the Planning Board, ladies and gentlemen, Nick Panayotou, I am a Principal in the Land Developer Group TRC Engineers Inc. I am licensed professional engineer and I have over forty years of experience in land development. We are pleased tonight to be part of the RSCC team to bring Costco to Yorktown. Next slide.

Costco was ranked number one in the quality of merchandise and consumer reports survey. So, you have a number one wanting to come to Yorktown. RSCC and its parent company, Breslin Realty Development, has more than 50 years -- actually it should be 55 years because that was done in 2008, when Mr. Breslin who is here tonight, was given a Robert Moses Master Builder Award in 2008, it is a very prestigious award.

We've been pleased to be part of his

design group for over 35 years, and together with Costco we intend to bring a quality project to Yorktown. So, let's look at the site. The most significant feature of the site is 18.75 acres, is that is already developed.

You can see on the graphic the light green area is about 10 acres, which indicates those areas that were previously developed. In the gray tone, there is showing the existing impervious area, the old motel. We are talking about the existing fence company, which was a prior gas station. The nursery, Zino's Nursery and two residences.

So, already on the site there are almost 3 acres of impervious area on the site, and over 10 acres of area that was already disturbed. In our review of the site, the -- there were several hazardous conditions identified by the project our enviromental consultant emphasized. Those conditions were reported to agencies and are in the EIS.

In addition to hazardous conditions,

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there are existing buildings that need to be demolished, existing septic systems, existing tanks, etc., that are on the site that need to be remediated. In addition, not shown on the graphic, there are perhaps as many as 30 or 40 debris piles that are located throughout the site and debris that are scattered all over the site including down in the embankment and in the hundred foot control area of the existing wetlands.

So, you can imagine this existing site that has absolutely no stormwater management control that we have untreated stormwater running off, going down its tributary over Hunterbrook Road. That's not a good condition.

The other significant feature of the site is the west side lineal wetlands that Beth Evans's office identified and was confirmed by review agencies, including the town. It is about 9/10s of an acre in size and has a hundred foot control area. There is also an isolated wetland of very little value that is located in the northeast corner of the site.

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The site terrain -- here is the Taconic, here is 202, so in this area. Really a fourth grade regional access and Dr. Phil Grealy is going to go over that after I finish my presentation. Access to the site is available from Crompound Road and Old Crompound Road, but we have limited the access to Crompound Road.

The site terrain sits about twenty to thirty feet below the main line of the Taconic and there is additionally, there is a leveled area, there is an embankment going down into the wetlands actuary that there is probably, 40 to 50 feet of terrain relief from the flat leveled area where the present embankment is down into the wetlands. Next slide.

Okay, what do we propose? The Costco building was sighted as far north or towards the rear of the property as possible and as far east or towards the Taconic as possible, in order to take advantage of the leveled terrain that was located in the present area of the hotel complex. It -- and also provides ample room to put most of the six

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hundred and ten parking spaces to the front of the Costco building, although there will be some parking along the west side of Costco.

The loading area is to the rear. The existing -- the proposed 12 dispenser fueling station is located east of the main entry. Now, what does this do? It does a really good job of splitting the traffic.

If you were going to the loading area, enter from behind the building, load and come back out the same way, it is closest to the Taconic and farther from the residential area. In addition, if you are destine to main parking, you go up the entrance, make a left turn and circulate through the main parking area. Any traffic that was destined to exit Costco going westbound would do so, could do so from a separate right in and right out entrance located at this point between the main entrance and Old Crompound Road.

> At the end of the day, for this site, 7.5 acres will remain green or be vegetative as green and the remaining green is in the

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darker areas and the vegetative green is in the light green areas. So, I think it is at the upper end of the scale to have so much green area as part of a retail development.

Obviously, one of the very, very, firsts things that will occur is demolition and remediation of the existing condition and that will be done -- buildings will come down, the hazardous conditions will be removed and the -- all of the debris will be taken out.

We know that not only the town, but the Taconic State Parkway puts an emphasis on buffering, and we are provided here with opportunities to buffer the site. Here is an area of the existing embankment which extends down from the ramp towards site. We plan on fully vegetating that buffer area to screen it from view, screening the buildings from view. Presently you can see the buildings; when we get done you are not going to be able to see the building from the Taconic.

We are also providing an ample area, a buffer area along Route 202 and -- at the

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top of this embankment and Beth Evans's office has come up with landscaping plans to show that. Now, Tom, can you show the next slide so that we can look at a typical view. This is a view from the Taconic and this is what it would look like if there were no buffering, and this is what it is going to look like with the buffering.

So, we have talked to the DOT and they are happy to help us buffering because there are in the same businesses we are, to try and make the views of Taconic be as beautiful as possible. Can you go to the next slide Tom? Thank you.

This is what the existing views look right now. This is obviously not what you want to see from the Taconic. The old motel here, here, and here, and here is a dumpster that you know -- again, there are thirty or forty debris piles that are located throughout the site. So, it is really an unsighted situation. Let's go to the next slide.

> One of the most important things that we have to consider, specially since we are

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in the city watershed, is the management of stormwater. As indicated previously currently there is no management for stormwater on the site, even though there are impervious areas, hazardous conditions, etc.

In addition, most of the development, if not all of the development in this area has relatively little stormwater quality remediation facilities in place, because the regulations are new and the -- the development was constructed many, many, years ago.

So, this is probably -- together with this later project that they'll put it in, this is probably gonna be the first project that has the up-to-date latest stormwater management system to meet the DEC and and DEP criteria. And obviously this slide shows the pipe system that we plan to provide.

It shows a micropool extended detention basin to the rear of the property, it shows an infiltration chamber here, and all those will combine -- plus in addition

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to a very good maintenance program by our client, will combine to remediate the stormwater to the level that will be required by review officials, and it will not have any impact in our view whatsoever on the tributary of Hunterbrook and Hunterbrook itself. Let's go to the next slide.

In addition to quality control, we are talking about also to set run off reduction, and you can see at the design point, which is near the extreme exists of the site, we have anywhere from 11 to 66 percent reduction in the greatest stormwater level that will proceed down stream. Let's go to the next slide.

Okay, most of the utilities are at the site frontage, we are talking electric, telephone and cable are at the site frontage. However, sanitary sewer, because the sanitary sewer is located at the intersection of Old Crompound Road and Stoney Street.

At that point the sewer -- the intent to extend the sewer along Crompond Road into

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the site providing service not only for the site, but also for all of the residents that are in lieu -- and in addition providing a store across the street, for what I used to call the temple project which was a project that came before the board years ago but never happened.

What this graphic shows in the lines that are going left to right, show District Number 17, which is part of the site and -this is a town sewer district, and also the temple property area. What we need to do is form District 20, which takes care of the rest of the site plus all of the Hunterbrook residents.

So, what we are asking the Town Board to do, is form District 20, take 17 and 20 and flip it up to the county and if we can go to the next slide, again, this is the 17 and 20 and the green is the county sewer district and we want 17 and 20 to become part of the county, Peekskill -- their sewer district.

24So -- and then in doing so will25allows to install the sewage to the site and

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provide the service to all the residents on that road. Let's go to the next slide. Oh, yes, traffic improvements. Before I turn it over to Phil, I do want to say that there were many, many, things and other things that our firm looked at, but in the interest of time you know, we are not going to go into them.

I do want to say however, there was air quality studies that we did that shows that there will be no impact on the air quality of our project. We did noise studies, and again, our noise studies show that there will be no impact on the project, on the noise sensors in the area of our project. So, with that I would like to introduce Phil Grealy, Dr. Phil Grealy, for the traffic presentation.

MR. GREALY: Good evening, Philip Grealy, I am a licensed professional engineer, Vice President with John Collins Engineers, good evening to the Board, members of the public, fellow Yorktowners. Our firm specializes in traffic and transportation. We do work not only for

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private developers, but we also represent municipalities in reviewing and helping design transportation systems, traffic improvements, permitting, etc.

Our role on this team as part of the DEIS prepared for the project was to look at traffic and we were retained by the applicant in this case, Mr. Breslin and Costco, to identify issues and come up with recommendations to handle traffic.

The first meeting we had, we talked about you know, the problems in the area, and being a resident for over twenty-five years in Yorktown, there are traffic problems in this town, many of which have not changed for twenty-five years. A lot of the problems that we are living with are problems that have been here for quite a while.

Mr. Breslin was made aware of some of the issues and realized, in order to move forward with this project, significant traffic improvements will be needed. So, in the document there is a lot of facts and figures and analysis and you know, details

	Proceedings 25
1	that the public is really not gonna
2	understand or get into.
3	The bottom line is, we are here to
4	talk about what improvements, what is being
5	changed in the area because of some other
6	significant things that are happening, and
7	to talk about how the improvements being
8	implemented will help accommodate this
9	project.
10	As Mr. Panayotou described the site
11	is located across from the Mobile station.
12	So, we have the Taconic interchange, we have
13	the 202 corridor, everybody is familiar with
14	that. As we know it, the afternoon rush
15	hour it is not unlikely to see traffic
16	backed up from this ramp, backed pass the
17	Sports Barn, pass 132 to the high school.
18	Traffic heading westbound in the afternoon
19	is a typical problem that is bottle neck
20	once it gets to this area.
21	There are other variance along the
22	corridor, of course they have traffic
23	issues. We've looked at over fourteen
24	intersections in the area which were
25	identified as part of the scoping document

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for to the study. But, what I'd like to spend a little bit of time on some of the improvements, on some of the changes that are coming ahead, both, by Costco and also by the New York State Department of Transportation. Next slide.

One of the areas that has been looked at and studied, as everybody knows there was what was called the sustainable development study, traffic studies that were done for the corridor, both, 202 and Route 6, and in Yorktown, Cortlandt, Peekskill, so there have being a lot of studies, there is a lot of date out there, there is a lot of identification of problems, but now we are getting to the point where we are looking at solutions to those problems.

One of the main areas that has been a problem is, this is the Bear Mountain Parkway extension where it intersects with 202, down near McDonalds, of course this is BJ's and the Staples Shopping Plaza, Stoney Street, Old Crompond Road, this rear view, there it is, here. And to the left we end up all the way up near Parkside Corner and

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the car dealers and Grandma's, etc.

So, one of the problems is if you decided to stay on the Taconic in the afternoon and you are heading to Cortlandt, well you get down, you have two choices, you come out on Stoney or you come down and wait in the que trying to get onto Route 202.

So, this has been studied, the state DOT has designed improvements. Next slide please. And what has transpired is the area to the west of the Costco site, and again for variance here, Route 202, Bear Mountain Parkway extension, the interchange, this is Costco.

So, today a lot of traffic, in the afternoon rush hour gets you off the ramp and traverses across Route 202 heading to Cortlandt, etc, because they don't want to be in this bottle neck.

So, the Department of Transportation has been actively involved in the design of the project, which is actually going out to bid December of this year, it started off at somewhere in the order of five to six million dollar project that would widen 202,

from Staples Plaza, pass Pine Grove Court, pass the Bear Mountain Parkway extension, pass Parkside Corner and then transition back to the existing roadway.

That road will be widen to be a five-lane cross section. One of the other components of that project, is the development of an acceleration lane. So, coming off the Bear Mountain Parkway extension will be an acceleration lane to get on 202 if you are heading westbound. So, that's one of the bottle necks that the state is taking care of and in the context, both the cleaning up, the safety and the capacity of this area here.

The next area that we are going to look at here, and I will talk about some of the specific improvements, but the state project was really just starting at Staples Plaza and heading west. So, there was an area between that and the Costco site which is shown here in purple, in that area, from Old Crompond Road down to Staples Plaza was being kept at its current state.

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As Costco started to develop plans

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for improvements near this interchange, and our improvements which I will get into, start at Strang Boulevard and continue all the way to Old Crompond Road, the state looked at it and said, well, we have this missing piece so we are going to expand our project. So, what's in this purple area here, the state is now adding an additional lane to match into our proposed improvement and continue that all the way to the west.

So, again, regardless of Costco, this is going ahead, the state, it is a funded project, it is going out to bid December of this year, projected it will be completed by June of 2014. Next slide, please.

These are just some of the DOTs improvements. Again, this is the Bear Mountain Parkway extension acceleration lane on Route 202 westbound, as you can see near McDonalds you will have one, two, three, four, five lanes, plus an acceleration lane. Next slide, please.

This is Pine Grove Court where it intersects with Route 202. Right now there is one lane in each direction. For the last

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fifteen or eighteen years has been talked about a third lane and a signal so people in that neighborhood can get out to and from 202. So, that intersection will change drastically. There will be a signal at that location, two lanes in each direction, plus a dedicated left-turn lane turning off from 202. Next slide please.

One of the areas DOT is improving is where Stoney Street intersects with the Bear Mountain Parkway extension. Right now there is no set left-turn late that is a high accident location, that is being reconfigured to provide separate dedicated turn lanes and there will also be a signal at that intersection. Next slide, please.

So, those are components that will change that section of the 202 corridor, and again, regardless of Costco, but it is happening now, so, these improvements are going ahead.

Now, if we get back to where the Costco site is, one remaining bottle neck that the DOT is not taking care of near the current project, is at the ramps on 202 with

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the Taconic interchange and the Mohansic Avenue and through this stretch. What we are proposing to do is to widen Route 202, beginning at Strang Boulevard, we'll be providing an additional westbound thru lane. So, traffic that now queues up, as I said in the afternoon we will see it backed

up all the way into the high school, will now have two lanes to the interchange. We will be making some turning lane modifications based on the DOT to provide more stacking and the signals will be replaced and coordinated from Strang Boulevard, the ramps, Mohansic, and it will get interconnected again to the Staples Plaza signal.

As part of the access, which Nick had described, we have a full new one access here, which will handle not only the passenger car traffic, but the truck traffic, but we will have between five and ten tractor trailers to this site on a daily basis. Two or three of those will be fuel delivery, most of those trips occur in the off peak hours. It is in Costco's best

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interest to do that and they do have control over much of that.

Some of the other benefits in terms of the improvements to this corridor, right now there are existing bus stops on either side of 202. Especially around this time of the year it is very dangerous. We have people waiting for a bus in the afternoon are standing basically in the shoulder of the road. So, we are building a sidewalk, crosswalks and a refuge area for people that are using the public transportation on either side of 202, and as I said the traffic signals through here will all be interconnected.

Now, all of this work is being paid for by the developer, nothing from the town, all by the developer and Costco. That's important because we all get historically in the town. We were waiting for DOT to make improvements for years. A few years ago the town got to the point where they decided they needed to do something in the interim.

For example, at Lexington Avenue, State Highway, but we couldn't wait any

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longer and we needed to build a right-turn lane. It wasn't a fix all, but it helped traffic move through that intersection. In the triangle intersection in the center of town, same thing. We weren't going to solve all the problems, but we couldn't wait for the DOT anymore. So, the town went ahead and built a right-turn lane instead of -- in front of Cablevision.

So, now we have an applicant here, realizes traffic has to work. In this business if traffic doesn't work a retailer won't come to the site. They have their own people that review it, so, we identified the need early on. The developer very experienced, understands, realized what he had to spend here, and we are looking at spending between two and a half and three million in road improvements, including sidewalks, signal operatings, etc. As I said before, the state project

started at about five million, it is well over seven million. So, you are going to see in the next year and a half, and if Costco moves forward, somewhere between

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seven and a half to over ten million dollars of road improvements at this location.

Now, there are other locations that have been studied, some recommendations have been identified, ranging from signal, timely improvement signal modifications, but what we are looking at taking care of are main bottle neck in this system. Now you say okay, but you are going to generate traffic, yes, Costco is going to generate traffic.

In any one hour period Costco will generate somewhere between 250 to 500 trips in and the same number at exiting, okay. During the weekend, Saturday will be in the higher range, weekday and the rush hour will be closer to the lower range. So, all of that volume does appear on this section of the road, but we disperse. We have the Taconic, it is a regional roadway, traffic will use that.

Traffic will disperse to the west and traffic will disperse to the east, so we don't end up with all those cars and the east section of 202, I think that's important for people to realize.

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In terms of the truck traffic as I said before, we will have five to ten tractor trailers at this site every day. Two or three of them bringing fuel to the facilities. But, this plan is designed to accommodate that traffic, to remove some of the existing bottle neck. So, not only will we be handling the existing problems, but also to handle our traffic.

Now the DOTs role is as we talked about -- can we go to the next slide Tom. So, this area here is where the DOT is picking up, this orange area is where they are matching into the work that we are doing. We will also be adding a right-turn lane coming out of Mohansic Avenue, so we will have a two-lane approach opposite the driveway to Costco.

That lane will carry through the interchange and there will be a sidewalk through there. So, we are improving this area but we are looking at how it affects the existing and the future conditions. The DOT's role is with the modifications that we talked about with that acceleration lane

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getting onto the parkway, then the people will actually stay on the parkway if they are going to Cortlandt or Peekskil.

We haven't taken any credit for that in our design, but it is likely that as much as a third or a half of that traffic will actually now stay on the parkway, the Bear Mountain Parkway extension, and extend down further on Route 202.

So, I think that just to give you a full review we are here with the project, but we are here to fix things, we are not here to just say, oh, we are going to build and we don't need to do anything.

Now, you know, I look at this corridor and I look at when BJs first opened, okay. And there was a lot of concerns there, but really at BJs and at that part of 202 traffic work okay right there. But, you have bottle necks on either sides, okay. So we are trying to clean up, and actually is what the state is doing and how this will function for us.

So, there are a lot more details in the DEIS, if anyone wants to go in and look

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at the specifics, you will find them there, but I wanted to give you a flavor for this applicant, what else is going on in terms of the DOTs improvements, which are very significant. We haven't seen that in this town in a long time.

And we have a development team here, an applicant and a use that will spend money on infrastructure and they are doing that to accommodate our site. With that, I would like to turn it over to Vince Ferrandino who will talk about some of the fiscal impacts and benefits of the project. Thank you.

MR. FERRANDINO: Good evening everybody, my name is Vince Ferrandino, I am the Principal of Ferrandino and Associates, Inc., a multi-disciplinary planning and consulting firm based in Elmsford, New York. We have been in business about twenty-five years and our practice covers everything from comprehensive planning, to preparing Environmental Impact Statements, reviewing Environmental Impact Statements, preparing economic impact analysis and a myriad of environmental services.

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For this assignment we were responsible for several components of the Environmental Impact Statement, namely the land use and zoning components, the visual impact components, and the fiscal and economic impact components. Like Phil Grealy, I too have a connection to the town of Yorktown. I actually grew up in Yorktown, actually not too far from the site, York Farm Estates, I see some of my former neighbors here this evening, it is like coming home.

> And ironically, this goes back to when I was in high school, I actually did landscaping work at the former London Inn, some of you may not remember the London Inn. So, I have a sentimental connection to the project. But, that's not why we were hired.

I am a fully licensed planner, American Institute of Certified Planners, a member for a number of years. As I said, we have prepared a number of comprehensive plans throughout the region, most recently in Westchester County, we prepared a comprehensive plan for the Town of North

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Salem. We have completed a comprehensive plan at the moment for the Town of Port Chester and are currently working on a comprehensive plan for the Town of Greenburgh. Next slide.

As I said, one of my responsibilities was analyzing the land use and zoning components of the project. It is -- as Mr. Capellini mentioned earlier in the introductory remarks, the proposed Costco store is currently allowed under the current C-3 Zoning. If we were not allowed we would not have an equal right and the developer would have a more difficult time of applying for these approvals.

If you look a the comprehensive plan that was adopted in 2010, specifically comprehensive plan policy 4-24. That policy supports retail use and "a regional draw at the eastern end of the Bear Mountain triangle and the 202 area, which is the project's site.

And while I will admit that in reviewing the comprehensive plan there is language in that plan that talks about a

1	village-like development along certain
2	portions of Route 202 and by the way, as
3	part of the EIS we did analyze several
4	alternatives to Costco, one of which was a
5	hotel and one of which was a mixed-use
6	village-like retail development.
7	So, for those of you who have not had
8	an opportunity to review document please do
9	that many. We analyzed each of those
10	alternatives with respect to traffic,
11	visual, fiscal, etc. So, a full layout for
12	you to see.
13	So, from a planning perspective, a
14	comprehensive planning perspective the site
15	does permit this particular use, namely the
16	C-3 Zoning. Next. It terms of the
17	socio-economic impacts of the project we
18	looked at several things. Next.
19	First, we undertook a market study,
20	and while not necessarily required under the
21	environmental regulation, we thought it was
22	necessary to examine the market, to see
23	whether or not in fact a Costco store, a one
24	hundred and fifty thousand square foot
25	Costco store and gas station could be

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supported in the market. And again, that market study is included in the EIS, which is appendix in. Essentially when you analyze a market we look for the un-net spending potential within the area.

We looked at three trade areas. One, the inner trade area which is within the five mile radius, and that is the inner circle here. We looked at the middle trade area which is between five and eight miles, that's this circle here, that goes as far north as Putnam County. Then we looked it at the outer trade area, which is basically north of the middle trade area and when we did the analysis we concluded that within the five mile radius, which takes in most of Yorktown by the way, at the moment approximately, 63.5 million dollars is leaking out of that five mile trade area. What that does mean?

It means that the 63.5 million dollars is being spent elsewhere and that has a potential of being spent within the Town of Yorktown. Going a bit further to what we call the middle trade area, which is

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five to eight miles, we see it jumps tremendously to about eight hundred twenty-two million dollars of sales leakage outside of that trade area.

And then going a bit further north, it approximates one billion dollars. Now, this is in other words, all being spent outside the area. So, clearly a Costco store given the sales that is going to project can certainly keep the work within the Town of Yorktown, from our economic perspective and that is very, very, important because that service is the basis for a subsequent study that we did, next, which is called the commercial character assessment. Essentially a commercial character assessment is intended to show how a particular development like Costco impacts other retail establishments within the town.

As part of that analysis, of course we looked at the five Yorktown hamlets that are identified in the comprehensive plan. Of course Crompond and Route 202, we looked at Yorktown Heights, we analyzed Mohegan Lake, Jefferson Valley and Shrub Oak. The

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way we analyzed it was by doing a literally door-to-door survey, with photo inventory of each property within these five hamlets.

Narrow down all of the retail uses within those areas to what we call relative establishments. A relative establishment is a establishment that sales goods or services similar to what Costco sales. And there are about a hundred of those, so called relative establishments within the five hamlet areas.

Now, under the enviromental regulations competition per se is not an issue that can be analyzed under SEQRA, because this is America and competition is healthy and everyone is entitled basically to compete, and competition is very, very, healthy.

But what is an element to be analyzed under SEQRA, there is something called the determination of blight, that a store like Costco may or may not have on these hamlets and these retail concentrations. So, for example, if Costco were contributing to a key store, let's say in the triangle shopping center, that on the basis of sales,

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etc, that particular may not be doing that well, may not renew their lease for whatever reason, that alone is not a -- an adverse impact.

However, if Costco by virtue of its sales, etc, succeeded in affecting that strip center if you will, to the extent that it became blighted and the fact that it if didn't become blighted other stores would basically go out of business and then at the end of the day you would have a situation where you have a strip center that is not in healthy condition, then that would be an adverse impact.

But based upon the analysis that we undertook you will find in the hamlets, even though there are vacancies in the Heights and Shrub Oak and Mohegan and along 202, primarily former car dealerships, it did not raise to the level of a blighting influence and that is really the key criteria under SEQRA.

So, number one, the market study showed that there is sufficient market share within the five to eight mile radius to

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accommodate a store like Costco; additional retail. And then secondly, the impact of a Costco in our opinion as planners for the applicant, would not have any adverse impact in terms of causing blight within these particular areas.

Now, I want to point out that we did our analysis or survey about a year ago. The difference between now and then is that several of the vacancies that we counted, certainly in the Heights are being occupied, but certain of the vacancies in the Mohegan Lake hamlet have been reoccupied.

So, we are undertaking what I call a very conservative estimate at this point. So, I just want to point that out to you. Next. In terms of the fiscal and socio-economic impacts of the project. Out -- overall confusion is that these impacts are very, very, positive for the Costco store, and we will go over those very quickly. First of all in terms of jobs,

everyone is very sensitive to jobs these days obviously with unemployment being what

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it is. During the construction phase, approximately three hundred and fifty temporary full time equivalent construction jobs will be created at the site, generating about 18 million dollars in earnings during this construction phase. This is approximately, eighteen to twenty-four month construction phase.

Once the Costco store is constructed, it will create another two hundred permanent direct jobs, with annual earnings of approximately, 8.2 million dollars per year, that's being pumped into this economy.

In terms of indirect impacts, Costco expects the project will indirectly create temporary full time equivalent jobs with about 3.1 million dollars in revenue during the construction phase, and an additional forty-five permanent indirect jobs at off site locations earning approximately 1.4 million dollars per year.

The large majority of these expenditures both, indirect and direct, will accrue to the Yorktown economy, very, very, rapidly. Next. In terms of taxes,

obviously no one is interested in taxes. Currently the site was generating about \$110,500.00 in taxes per year, \$16,424.00 of those taxes goes directly to the Town of Yorktown to basically support municipal services.

Another \$16,500.00 goes to Westchester County and \$77,600.00 goes to the Yorktown School District. So, right now is generating about \$111,000.00 worth of taxes. Next. Once the Costco store is constructed it will generate approximately, \$911,000.00 in annual property taxes. The breaking down is as follows. \$92,000.00 and change to the town for municipal services, \$613,000.00 to the Yorktown School District, and I might add, that is not adding one school child to the population.

\$92,000.00 roughly to the County of Westchester in property taxes and \$114,000.00 in property taxes generated to the various special districts throughout the town, plus an additional \$22,000.00 to the county sewer district.

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So, the project is generating

hundreds of thousands of dollars in taxes
with minimum service provided. Next. In
the EIS there is what we actual fiscal
impacts makers, which summarizes the various
taxes both, direct and indirect, to the
various taxing jurisdictions. Overall,
close to eleven million dollars per year
will be generated in the town, the county,
and the school district.
As large majority of those taxes
granted, there will be in sales taxes going
to the County of Westchester and the State
of New York.
Unfortunately the way the tax
regulations exist currently, a small
percentage of that sales tax comes from the
town, but it does come from the town. But
overwhelming plus in terms of taxes it is
certainly to the school district, certainly
to the town as a whole and the various
special districts of about \$113,000.00 in
special district taxes will accrue to the
special district taxes will accrue to the Town of Yorktown.

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strongly, and as a professional planner and economist, I agree that the impacts will be very, very, positive to the Town of Yorktown. There is definitely a market for this Costco and several other types of Costco stores, and I am not advocating for more type big boxes in the Yorktown, but certainly the demand for retail is there, it is underserved.

Currently there are four Costco within decent traveling distance of Yorktown. I would imagine anyone going to Costco in the corridor of Yorktown now, would go to the Danbury store, possibly the Yonkers store. There is also one in Port Chester and there is one in New Rochelle.

So, obviously if you look at a map, the location of this Costco is strategically located so that it will serve primarily the local area. It will also decrease traffic going to the Danbury mall and these other stores. Well, I forgot to mention that, that's another indirect positive impact.

So, that concludes my remarks, I would like to hand over the microphone to

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Erich Brann, who is the northeast regional manager for Costco, we are working very closely with him. He can talk specifically -- much better and more specifically that I can in terms of other benefits that Costco provides and also we will be discussing the design of the building. Thank you very much.

MR. BRANN: Wow, I really hate going last. My name is Erich Brann, I am the director for real estate development for Costco, I work at the regional office and we are responsible for this project. I'd like to clear up a few things that I've seen floating in the press about Costco.

> One, we've been a long time referred to be a big box and we are a big box, that's for sure. Costco is one of the best employers in the country. We have one of the highest retention rates of any company in any industry in the United States.

We have a -- approximately, a hundred and fifty-one thousand employees at this time. A hundred and seven thousand in the U.S., 90 percent of those employees are

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benefit eligible, 98 percent of them participate in our benefits program.

Again, we have the lowest terminable rate in the industry. Approximately, 10 percent in the first year and then 6 percent for employees that have been with us more for more than a year. We recruit primarily from the communities in which we settle, we like to have local employees.

As a starting pay in a Costco, just to dispel any rumors, the lowest starting wage at Costco is \$11.00 an hour. Our service clerk start at \$11.50 an hour, our retailers start at \$11.50 an hour. Potential for income after five years of employment will be \$48,680.00 a year.

We promote from within. Everyone of our warehouse managers started as a cart pusher, a box cutter, a trash hauler or some other position at the bottom of the scale and worked their way up. I lost my way here. Basically Costco is different in just about any other retailer you will meet, there is a lot of things out there about how many products we sell. The average Costco

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has 4,000 products in any given time.

The average Walmart or whichever other big box will have from a hundred and ten to a hundred thousand products at any given time. Costco rotates their stocks continuously, it creates what we call a treasure hunt atmosphere. People come in and they see something and they know in six weeks from now it may not be there. But, it is part of how our process works.

We have been in business since 1983, and we occupy almost every state in the union -- of the United States I apologize, and several foreign countries, including Korea, Tokyo -- Korea, Japan, Mexico, Canada and the United Kingdom.

The Costco here in Yorktown is we consider a prime location. Costco's business policy and our motto from day one has been brought to give small businesses into our shops, that's what we are there for, that's what we are created for. And the three zip codes that make up Yorktown, Yorktown Heights, this area, we can already claim a hundred and eighteen small

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businesses as members, and these are people that are driving thirty minutes to shop at Costco, some of them actually leaving the state to go to the nearest Costco in Connecticut.

We also already have several of the community households as members. Again, people who will leave the community to shop, people who are going elsewhere to spend the money we would like to keep in the Yorktown area. We feel like a Yorktown warehouse will be a good benefit for us and for the community. That's really all I have, I wanted to keep it brief because I know you guys have to listen to a lot of people.

MR. FON: Tom, how are we doing on time?

TOM: We have about sixteen minutes left.

20 MR. FON: Okay, we are going to the 21 speakers next. Everyone, if you see me 22 looking to the phone, I am just using it as 23 timer, I am not looking at my e-mail. 24 Number one, Patricia Dineen, 1865 25 Hunterbrook Road, Yorktown Heights. I am

54 Proceedings going to try to limit it to about five 1 2 minutes. Thank you. 3 MS. DINEEN: Good evening everyone, I am speaking tonight on behalf of the First 4 5 Presbyterian Church of Yorktown, which is at 288 Crompond Road, which is the corner of 6 7 Route 202 and 35 -- I am sorry, 132. It has come to our attention that an 8 unknown individual or group has included a 9 10 prominent photograph of our church on a 11 flyer that has been handed out throughout 12 the town regarding the Costco issue. The use of this photograph by any individual or 13 14 organization in this manner gives the false 15 impression that the church, its congregation 16 and leadership have consented to its use and 17 further implies support of the sole 18 individual or group's position on this 19 matter. This is decidedly not so. 20 While we may be flattered by the 21 thought that our church may represent a 22 symbol of some aspect of the community found 23 in the Town of Yorktown, it must be made 24 known that the leadership of this church has 25 taken no position on this issue, either for

	Proceedings 55
1	or against.
2	In addition, we must insists that
3	there be no further use of such a photograph
4	or image of our church by any individual or
5	group for any such purpose without prior
6	written permission from the church
7	leadership.
8	We ask simply that our church's image
9	of retaining its neutral character until we,
10	as church members and the leadership, decide
11	otherwise. Thank you.
12	MR. KINCART: Next is Mr. Joseph
13	Visconti, 800 Granite Springs.
14	MR. VISCONTI: Good evening, I am Joe
15	Visconti, 800 Granite Springs Road. I have
16	been a resident of Yorktown since 1978, I am
17	also the Chamber of Commerce President.
18	First, I would like to start off by thanking
19	the Planning Board and all of the
20	professionals that are making a contribution
21	to this project. I hope that we can all
22	respect each others views and I hope that we
23	can all understand each others views and we
24	can all work altogether for the betterment
25	of Yorktown.

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We are all Yorktowners and we are all Americans, and this project has sort of brought out some of the worse in people. So, I hope we can move past that. I do have four letters of support I want to put it into the record, I am going to give them to you.

The first letter is from the business Council of Westchester. The second is from the Westchester County Association, two of Westchester organizations that support Costco. The third and the fourth letter are from the Port Chester/Rye Chamber of Commerce and the Yonkers Chamber of Commerce. As the chamber president I speak to the chamber -- public chamber presidents and the letters are very favorable on Costco in their town.

19The Westchester County Association20has what they call a blueprint for21Westchester, which is a -- designed to bring22business into Westchester County. I see23that we -- I am impressed with all the24expert that are working on this project,25both from Costco, the Planning Board and

	Proceedings 57
1	others, and I am not going to pretend to
2	know more than them.
3	What I do know is that the membership
4	in the Yorktown Chamber of Commerce is
5	hurting. Thirty percent of the construction
6	trade is not working today. We have an
7	opportunity here to bring jobs to Yorktown.
8	We have an opportunity here to bring several
9	hundred thousand dollars to the school
10	district.
11	I see our kids working in car washes
12	so that they can spend they can make
13	money to buy t-shirts. There is nothing
14	wrong with the kids working for their
15	t-shirts, but they shouldn't have to do
16	that, when we have an opportunity to collect
17	several hundred thousand dollars for the
18	Yorktown School District, almost a victory.
19	This building is going to be here,
20	this company is going to be here for a long
21	time, the company is not failing. They have
22	they do billions of dollars every year
23	and they are not going to come to Yorktown
24	and build a building that is not going to
25	work. They are making a major,

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multi-million dollar investment in Yorktown, and quite frankly in this economy we should welcome that.

Is Costco gonna solve all our problems? Of course not. Is it gonna solve all the traffic problems in Yorktown? Of course not, but it is a good start. So, I would like for you to -- with all due respect, take a good look at this, I know that you are going to look at it intensely and to have faith in the Planning Board and in the other officials -- I think we had a very nice presentation here tonight and I look forward to moving forward with this project. Thank you.

MR. FON: Thank you. Mr. Aaron Bock, 2000 Maple Hill.

MR. BOCK: Good evening Members of the Planning Board, my name is Aaron Bock, my business address is 2000 Maple Hill Street in Yorktown and I have a resident of Jefferson Valley since 1973.

I am the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Yorktown Chamber of Commerce and I have been involved in town,

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locally. I was a prior supporter of BJs and I -- the town and the chamber, both, recognize that the Route 202 corridor presents a unique opportunity for business development in town, which must be encouraged by your board's actions in dealing with this application.

A primary impact of an organization like Costco is on the existing business community and I want to address that portion of the DEIS this evening. The Chamber of Commerce of almost five hundred members consisting of major retailers like BJs, the Jefferson Valley Mall and private retailers throughout the community support this project.

We believe that the market analysis contained in the DEIS is accurate and complete and we believe that the commercial character assessment as well is accurate and complete.

The impact analysis in the report says that the proposed Costco store will not have an adverse impact on the overall strength and character of the existent

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commercial base in Yorktown. That commercial base which the Chambers of Commerce represents.

Why is that? I can say safely that we have not as a Chamber of five hundred members heard a single word in opposition to this project from our membership, because it benefits our membership. It brings customers to Yorktown, it keeps customers in Yorktown and that is the life blood of our community represented by the Chamber of Commerce.

So, the chamber urges you as a Board, to accept the DEIS as complete, to further this project to completion, and I thank you for the opportunity to address you tonight.

> MR. FON: Thank you. Number four, David Smithies, I am sorry if I mispronounce that. 2330 Sultana Drive.

MR. SMITHIES: You got it. Good evening, I am David Smithies. I have been a resident of Yorktown for thirty-five years at the same address. I just have a couple of concerns; I came tonight with two major concerns and I looked at the traffic

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presentation and it appeared to me that as much as it is been done as possible to solve a problem that we have learned to live with, I would rather prefer that we have that thing working before they put another big box in there. So, the impact -- because we never know, if the county were to fix it, if Costco wasn't there.

That been said, everything I've heard that Costco is very good, I shop in Costco, I think it is the best of the club stores, so that would be a positive. The concern that I have, and it was a couple of comments about blight, and I would say this, I believe very strongly that within two years BJs will be closed. And I don't mean that as slight to anybody, but Costco is a stronger operator than BJs.

19 I know that in Mr. Primavera's letter 20 it said that they co-exist in four location, 21 I spent time on the internet -- by the way, 22 I little bit about myself. I spent 23 thirty-eight years in retail, I am retired 24 I was in an executive position. now. I ran 25 Waldbaums, in Long Island, I ran A&Ps in

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different areas, which isn't the great in Yorktown.

But aside from that, I have a lot of experience in retail. Looking at site plans, looking at research. I know club stores, that kind of box has a different kind of offering, but I would be amazed, surprised if BJs can make it two years.

I think Costcos' will be a great offering. I found the four locations on the internet where they co-exist and I just want to share them with you because I think one thing the Planning Board should do, is to really study the impacts, not just look at the positives that Costco will bring, but the negatives if BJs goes down. You have Bed Bath and Beyond in that shopping center closed down, if Circuit City on the other side of town which is closed a long time now, we have big boxes around that are not being occupied, so that's still a major problem.

The four locations where they co-exist, one is Brooklyn with a population of two million five, not quite this market

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place. Second is Westbury, New York. Westbury is a small town, it is fifteen thousand people. I know Long Island very well, I ran a Waldbaums for five years, okay.

Westbury is -- the location most of all for their shopping center, is the number one shopping center in Nassau County, is the shopping's heart of Nassau County. So, the Nassau County is about a million three, the highways that get to that place, Southern State Parkway, Northern State Parkway, Meadobrook Parkway, Long Island Expressway, they all go there. So, not comparable to the Yorktown location that we have. The other location that I found was Edison, New Jersey.

Edison is nine ninety thousand people of itself. The surrounding towns are another three hundred thousand people, it is a -- it's big. Route 1 corridor is a extremely busy area. As bad as 202 is, Route One down there is ten times worse, if not much more traffic, so it is not comparable to Yorktown.

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And the last area that they have -threw me a little bit off is Manahawkin, both companies have sources in Manahawkin. Manahawkin is only fourteen, fifteen thousand people. Manahawkin is a gateway to So, of the thousands of businesses LBI. that are in on Long Beach to go shopping of club stores to supply themselves, the residents who rent the homes will supply themselves, that's the only bridge into Long Beach Island with a Manahawkin base. That's why those two club stores there survive. So, there is no precedent around anywhere why -- if there is that would be a question that I would ask, is there another

question that I would ask, is there another location like this that says that these two giants can coexist together in this size town. Because if that is not the case, then we really need to study the impact of BJs closing, the impact from that blow and also the lose of taxes and revenue, and jobs and retail if BJs closes. And that concludes it, I wanted to keep it as short as possible.

MR. KINCART: Thank you. Mr. Jay

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Kopstein, 2239 Van Cortlandt Circle.

MR. KOPSTEIN: Good evening, I'm a twenty-five years resident of Yorktown, I support the Costco. Costco's quality is significantly better than most similar stores and their customer service is superb.

I don't believe the negative comments being put out by the opposition to Costco. But let's look what exists now. Staples next to BJs and they are both doing well. In the Cortlandt Town Center you have a Walmart that sales food, an A&P and a Office Max.

Common sense would indicate that the potential loser in the petitioning of Costco would be the Cortlandt Town Center in the Town of Cortlandt. If that was the case, the position of the Planning Board should be, who cares. Remember what Cortlandt did to us years ago, when they first expanded the Cortlandt Town Center. They came to a Town Board meeting and complained about the traffic that building on 202 would do. The Town Board said no, within a week the Town of Cortlandt approved building the town

	Proceedings 66
1	center.
2	Incidentally, one year they were
3	conducting a brief survey, I didn't see any
4	electric cars parked in the area, there were
5	a few hybrids, there were a lot of SUVs.
6	Could it be that some of the
7	environmentalist is sitting here opposing
8	Costco, also drive gas guzzlers and
9	believing the old adage, do as they say, not
10	as I do.
11	MR. FON: Before we break, in
12	reference to the comments, we really want to
13	keep it civil as much as we can keep the
14	entire setting, thank you. We are going to
15	take a brief break, so Tom can review the
16	tape now. Thank you.
17	(Whereupon, a brief recess was taken.
18	Time noted 8:50 PM)
19	(Whereupon, all the parties were
20	present. Time noted 8:58 p.m.)
21	MR. FON: This is tape two of the
22	Costco hearing. I am going to announce the
23	next four, so if the four of you can get up
24	there so it will go a little quicker. Six
25	is Mr. Paul Moskowitz, 2015 Hunterbrook

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Road. Seven, Jennie Sunshine, 98 Ravencrest Road. Eight, Mr. Evan Bray, 3496 Mohegan Avenue; and Nine, Steve B. Kaplan, 1673 Summit Street.

MR. MOSKOWITZ: Hello, my name is Paul Moskowitz, and I have lived in Yorktown for many decades, I am afraid to admit how many, so I won't say. What I would like to do is poss a question to the Planning Board, and that is, is the Costco DEIS an example or an instance of segmentation.

By this I mean, according to the New York State DEC definition, segmentation is defined as the division of an environmental review of an action so that various activities or stages are addressed, so there were independent unrelated activities meeting individual determinations of significance.

The reason I bring up this question is, in light of the February 23rd, 2012, meeting posted by the officials of the Town of Yorktown, the master of ceremonies of that meeting was our Supervisor, the whole town hall was present, there were more

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presentations by our town supervisor, the Town Planning Director, and an enviromental consultant and in fact, a recording of that meeting is still available on the Yorktown Town Board websites for past the meetings.

At that meeting, which was entitled Town of Yorktown Economic Development Summit Route 202 Corridor, we were told about many activities in the Route 202 corridor. This has lead me to believe that consideration of the impacts of Costco were not taken into account for the whole project, which is the Route 202 corridor development, does represent segmentation. This is a determination for the Town's Planning Board to make.

However, this is not just a matter of opinion, it is a matter of devaluation. New York State DEC has a list of factors that need to be evaluated, in order to determine whether this is indeed segmentation. The DEC says if the answer to one or more of these question is yes, an agency should be concerned that segmentation is taking place. Note, they say one or more. So, it

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can't be just one and there is a half of page of factors listed by the DEC, but I will just refer to a couple of them.

For instance, common purpose or goal. Well, our town supervisor told us that his purposes was to push redevelopment of Route 202 forward. There were statements made referring to both the proposed Costco and the State Land Corporation.

A slide was presented which states the concurrence of these projects presents an opportunity to plan realistically for development and for solutions to the prime infrastructure needed for the corridor. There is a map posted on the web page of the Town of Yorktown, on the website of the Town of Yorktown, which shows various activities within the Route 202 corridor.

DEC asks about time and location. As far as time goes we are told that there are active applications. This is again referring to the February 23rd meeting, were active applications for those with Costco, Crompond Crossing and the State Land Corporation.

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And in fact I have with me a document, nowhere near the size of the Costco document. But, this is a -- an expanded environmental assessment form for the proposed rezoning of State Land Corporation property site.

This was presented to the Town Board and it is dated March 2012. So, this was quite a few months ago. If I could do arithmetic correctly, this was about seven months ago this was presented to the Town Board.

So, we have activities which are occurring as was stated at the February 23rd meeting, concurrently. Couple of locations -- well, they are all in close proximity, Costco and State Land are located within one mile of each other on the same side of Route 202, and both of these are shown on the Town of Yorktown map on the Route 202 corridor development page. Now, we get to the crux of the matter, which is -- which are impacts. The

DEC asked, do any of the activities being considered to segmentation share a common

impact. And the obvious question is first 1 2 well, water quality, this was talked about at the February 23rd meeting. 3 The impact of the State Land 4 5 development and the Costco development should be added or have to be added 6 7 together. For example, Costco is a hundred and fifty thousand square feet of retail 8 9 The state land proposal is two space. 10 hundred thousand square feet of retail 11 space. 12 If Costco is going to put a thousand 13 cars per hour, five hundred trips going, 14 five hundred trips coming in the one hour 15 period, State Land can be expected to put one third more because it is one more -- one 16 17 third more retail space. Yet, I read 18 through the ninety pages of the section in 19 the Costco DEIS, that's section K on 20 traffic. 21 And although they mention State Land, 22 they take into account only the former 23 proposal, an eight year old proposal for

site. They do not mention the two -- the

Pulte Homes to put thirty houses on that

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traffic to be generated by two hundred thousand square feet of additional retail space, whose proposal is now before the Town Board, just as the Costco proposal is before you, the Planning Board.

In addition I find it very strange that the traffic analysis in the state -the Costco DEIS does not mention the state land retail plan, because it was the same company that did the traffic analysis for both, John Collins Engineers. They did the State Land proposal and they did the Costco proposal.

So, at the very least there has to be some updating of the Costco DEIS, because they do not take into account what two hundred thousand square feet of additional retail space on Route 202 will do.

In addition to traffic there are -the areas where there were are common impacts are -- include Section H of the DEIS, utilities; J, solid waste and air quality and noise; Q, fiscal and economic impacts and so on.

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In fact what I am asking is,

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shouldn't we have an environmental impact statement done for the entire Route 202 corridor redevelopment? And I am sure this is just the kind of technical question you would like to answer rather than what Costco -- I don't want Costco, this is something that the Planning Board should be able to deal with.

9 I would like to add that the Yorktown 10 environmental consultant who spoke on that 11 February 23rd date, advocated for and 12 environmental impact statement for the whole 13 corridor. So, that's what -- I will 14 conclude with what the DEC says, guess what 15 DEC also has a web page, anybody was a web 16 page. Except in special circumstances, 17 considering only a part or segment of an 18 overall action is contrary to the intent of 19 SEQRA. So, that's why I'll repeat the 20 question. Is it the Costco DIS -- DEIS then 21 an instance of segmentation? Thank you. 22 MR. FON: Thank you. Next is Jennie Sunshine, and again is 98 Ravencrest Road. 23 24 MS. SUNSHINE: That is correct. 25 MR. FON: How are you?

	r roccedrings
1	MS. SUNSHINE: Good, thank you.
2	First of all, I will probably be talking a
3	little longer than five minutes, if Costco
4	can give an hour long presentation then I
5	think I can talk a little longer than five
6	minutes.
7	MR. FON: We are limiting it to five
8	minutes Ms. Sunshine, just so that everybody
9	gets a chance.
10	MS. SUNSHINE: Sure, I totally
11	understand that. Actually, I already
12	crossed out a section because Paul Moskowitz
13	already addressed that particular effect.
14	MR. FON: Thank you.
15	MS. SUNSHINE: So, I will just start.
16	Dear Yorktown Planning Board, in this letter
17	I have posed ten questions of the proposed
18	Costco Draft Environmental Impact Statement
19	as it relates to traffic, and more
20	specifically the effect of traffic on our
21	emergency services and emergency services
22	personnel.
23	Route 202 is a very important road in
24	Yorktown. Along its length one can find
25	many residence, there are homes, businesses,

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restaurants, houses of worship, a town park, a state park, a middle school, a high school, an ambulance corp, a fire station which is close by, on 132 and Locksley Road, our town's police station and our nearest hospital, the Hudson Valley Hospital Center.

As of now only certain times of day bring troubles in traffic conditions on Route 202 where one might have to wait an extra five, or ten, or fifteen minutes to get onto the Taconic or get into downtown Yorktown. But conditions will be changing soon as Crompond Crossings, the first of many development projects has began. And then there is the proposed Costco project.

If Coco -- if Costco is built Breslin Realty has said Costco will attract seven hundred and fifty-eight cars per hour. The traffic mitigation that is to take place along with the Costco construction will be adding lanes on both directions, from Parkside Shopping Center through to Strang Boulevard as well as adding turning lanes and adjusting time in the various traffic lights.

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These needed traffic improvements will all be taking place within less than a two mile stretch along Route 202 adjacent where the proposed Costco is to be built. Aside from a better signal timing according to Section One of the executive summary in the DEIS at the light at Route 132, improvements to Route 202 will not be made from Strang Boulevard to downtown Yorktown.

Improvements will not be made on Highway 35 from downtown Yorktown to 684. The road that will be traversed by Costco's large delivery trucks and gas tanker truck, the very same road that will bring Costco shoppers from Ridgefield, Connecticut, North Salem, South Salem, Lewisboro, Waccabuc, Pound Ridge, Bedford, Katonah, Somers, Brewster and Mahopac.

Road improvements will not be made on any length of Hanover Street or Commerce Street upon which Engine One is located. 22 Yet, Costco customers will also hail from 23 southern areas of Yorktown, Mount Kisco, Bedford, Katonah and Chappaqua via Hanover Street.

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Here is my first question, everyday traffic. Given the importance of the entire length of Route 202 and of the key businesses and community services that are also located on this artery and given the other approved and potential development projects on Route 202, including the proposed Costco and the generation of the many additional vehicles from those projects, will the present road improvements that are to be made congruent with the Costco project to be sufficient to assure the safety and reasonable usefulness of this important corridor to our everyday lives?

Ultimately, given the great deal of increased of traffic from a cumulative effect of developing the Route 202 corridor, even with the few traffic improvements that are to be made near and around the proposed Costco site, police, fire and emergency services will many of them be affected.

> In Appendix 7.L of the DEIS, Chief Daniel M. McMahon, the Yorktown Chief of Police wrote in his letter, which I have attached, to the TRC Engineers referring to

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the Costco project, in bold, the proposed Costco will have an unfavorable impact on the police and on the entire Town of Yorktown. Chief McMahon underlines the word unfavorable.

In Section B of his letter he states that Costco will cause an increase of one hundred and six cars for services annually, that will increase the need for manpower and/or overtime. He also states investigations reporting paperwork, arrest processing and court appearances will create overtime.

Chief McMahon also mentions response time in his letter. He says that throughout the Town of Yorktown one can expect a response time of about three to six minutes, but that is only if one can assume that the roads are clear. Number two, question, the proposed -- excuse me, the police response time. My second questions.

If the Yorktown Police Department is over burdened with a more detailed coverage area and our roads are not clear due to the traffic issues the proposed Costco and other

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Route 202 development projects will create, on other fewer roads and the entire length of Route 202, that corridor, and the fact that the police station is also located on Route 202, might Yorktown's residents have to wait longer than three to six minutes as per Chief McMahon for policing services?

Question number three. Additional police. Given a large increase in policing area in the Route 202 corridor with Costco and any other -- and all other development projects, will Yorktown need to hire additional officers to cover this area, so that all the residents in Yorktown can continue to receive the same excellent level of safety and policing services?

Captain Lou Barbieri, Captain of the Lake Mohegan Fire District, regarding fire and EMS in Appendix 7.L of the DEIS, wrote in his letter which I have attached. To TRC Engineers, referring to the Costco project. Resources for emergency services, both, financial and man power lives are always impacted by development.

Captain Barbieri also explains that

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Lake Mohegan Fire District would be serving the Costco project with fire protection and EMS services from the fire headquarters on Route Six. The Furnace Woods fire station on Croton Avenue and from the Jefferson Valley fire station on Lee Boulevard.

He says, no more response times would be in a five minute range. Here is my fourth question. Fire and EMS response time to the proposed Costco location. If the Lake Mohegan fire district is over burdened with a more detailed coverage area, and if our roads are not clear due to the traffic delaying that Costco and other Route 202 development projects will create another fewer roads, and the entire length of the 202 corridor, doesn't it seem likely that Yorktown's residents would have to wait longer than five minutes as per Captain Barbieri, for fire and EMS services, from the station on Route 6, Jefferson Valley area to the Costco site? My question number five. Fire and

My question number five. Fire and EMS response time to other Yorktown locations. What about response time to

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other locations within Yorktown, doesn't it seem likely that those time will be lengthened due to increased traffic and possibly an over burdened fire and EMS staff.

My sixth question. EMS hospital response time. And what about getting back through the entire length of Route 202 and through other fewer roads in other to bring someone to the closest hospital, which is Hudson Valley Hospital Center, when its only entrance and exit is on Route 202?

At peak traffic times doesn't it seem likely that it will take more time for an individual driving in their vehicle or for an ambulance to reach the Hudson Valley Hospital Center in more than a reasonable amount of time to make this very important trip.

My seventh question. Additional fire and EMS personnel. Given the additional coverage area in the Route 202 corridor with Costco and any other development projects, will Yorktown need to hire additional fire and EMS personnel to cover this area so that

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our residents in Yorktown can continue to receive the same level of safety and support through the fire and EMS services that they presently receive.

In Section One of the Executive Summary and Section P, community facilities and services under the section entitled police, the DEIS explains that Costco will generate approximately, \$819,146.00 in annual property taxes to the Town of Yorktown. But that, only \$135,902.00 could be available to support police, fire and emergency services.

So here is my eighth question, funding for additional emergency personnel. It is clear from their letters to TRC Engineers, that both, Chief Daniel M. McMahon and Captain Lou Barbieri feel that Costco's traffic issues will be difficult to work around.

So, if they and/or if the Yorktown Town Board determines that in order to continue the present level of safety and coverage area for Yorktown that additional personnel and equipment are needed to be

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obtained in assuming additional volunteer fire fighters and EMS personnel cannot be found, then Yorktown will need to hire additional fire fighters and EMS personnel.

Further, if \$135,902.00 is all of the funding that has been made available to the town of by Costco, to support hiring additional police officers and equipment, additional fire fighters and equipment and hiring paramedics and equipment, how is \$135,902.00 sufficient for all the support and supplies that would be needed?

And in addition, would any new vehicles would needed to be purchased to support this needed increase in services? And where would these resources come from?

In Section One of the Executive Summary Section L of the DEIS that describes parking for the proposed Costco, it also mentions that there will be a sidewalk installed on the north side of Route 202 from Strang Boulevard to the proposed Costco site.

It also mentions that there will be as six foot paved shoulder area -- two of

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them actually, one on the northbound and then one on the southbound side of the street, created to accommodate bicycle transportation from Strang Boulevard to the proposed Costco site.

Here is my ninth question. For the road complication for EMS services. To get from the east site from Route 202 the to west side of Route 202, one must pass under the Taconic Parkway overpass. If the developer includes two, six foot paved shoulders for the bike lanes, a sidewalk for foot traffic on the north side of the street from the bus stop near Strang Boulevard extending it under the overpass of the proposed Costco site and the additional westbound car lane, how can all this fit through or under the Taconic Highway overpass, and further, how can we be sure that emergency vehicles will have adequate clearance to pass through this area in order to get to the Hudson Valley Hospital Center in a timely manner?

I have one more section, thank you so much for your patience. There is one more

critical emergency issue which presents 1 2 itself. I am reminded by the possibility of an evacuation of the area due to a 3 radiological emergency at Indian Point. 4 5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Boo, boo. MR. FON: Alright, please. thank you. 6 7 Please, please let her finish, thank you. MS. SUNSHINE: I am almost done. 8 Thank you so much. Just last week, just 9 10 last week my child's elementary school 11 practiced an early dismissal procedure for 12 this purpose. So, don't think it can't 13 happen, okay. The early dismissal notice, 14 which I have attached, also mentions the 15 evacuation location where the children from 16 her school would be taken. When you have 17 small children this sort of thing comes to 18 the front of your mind, not when you don't 19 have small children, okay. Do not, do not -- we cannot forget 20 21 that we live within the ten mile evacuation 22 zone of the Indian Point nuclear facility, 23 so here is my last question -- thank you. UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Come on. 24 MR. FON: Guys, guys, no more. 25 It is

	Proceedings 86
1	not worth it. Keep going, it's a long
2	night.
3	MS. SUNSHINE: I am almost done, I
4	promise. Thank you.
5	MR. FON: Thank you very much.
6	MS. SUNSHINE: Okay, Route 202 is a
7	major road that leads away from Peekskil,
8	Cortlandt, and the Buchanan area, it is
9	necessarily a planned route in a case of an
10	emergency at the Indian Point that would
11	require an evacuation of its nearby
12	residents.
13	Not mentioned in the DEIS is how with
14	the additional Costco traffic and the
15	additional traffic caused by further 202
16	corridor development impacts such an
17	evacuation. In conclusion because it does
18	not recognize the great importance of Route
19	202, a chief artery of Yorktown and because
20	it does not take into consideration any of
21	the other present and the proposed
22	development projects in this key Route 202
23	corridor, the Costco Draft Enviromental
24	Impact Statement is badly lacking the
25	sufficient facts and figures that will allow

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the Yorktown residents an authentic view of all traffic and safety issues that will come from a further developed 202 corridor.

It is only fair and just that if the proposed Costco and the other further development is to take place in the key Route 202 corridor, that all of the citizens residing in Yorktown continue to receive the same quality care and service from our excellent hard working police force, fire fighters and EMS personnel and continue to have the ability to move about the roads in a reasonable manner and in time of a true emergency. Thank you so much.

MR. FON: Thank you. I just want to bring to everybody's attention that we have a court stenographer here who is trying to keep track and it is very difficult with this background noise. If we can keep it to a minimum in respect to her. Thank you. Mr. Evan Bray.

MR. BRAY: Hi, before I get started tonight, yesterday I baked some snicker doodles and just in case anybody's blood sugar on the Planning Board starts to drain

	Proceedings 88
1	later, I would like to deliver them now.
2	MR. FON: Thank you.
3	MR. BRAY: As I said, my name is Evan
4	Bray, I live at 3496 Mohegan Avenue, that's
5	in Yorktown. I live with my pregnant wife
6	and three kids, I have a Bachelor's in
7	Architecture from the Cooper Union and I
8	work as a building code and zoning
9	consultant.
10	That said, we are violating several
11	building codes and zones and fire permits
12	by having these many people in this room
13	tonight. Let's continue. I love Costco,
14	you may know that under U.S. Law
15	corporations are treated as people.
16	However, upon further investigation
17	after my child chided me, if you love Costco
18	so much why don't you marry it, I have
19	confirmed that people are unable to marry
20	corporations under the current New York
21	State regulations. Until that changes I am
22	stuck further with the construction and
23	operations personnel and I am glad they are
24	here tonight.
25	That said, I have three quick points

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that I want to make in respect, out of respect to everybody who signed. The first one, in regards to the comprehensive plan that I understand that you guys are pretty well verse in it, I just wanted to say a couple of things.

The applicant's summary of compliance is entirely reliant on the fact that in a C-3 -- a C-3 Zoning district retail and wholesale uses are as of right. The gas station requires a special use permit later. The applicant surmises that, their proposal is consistent with the comprehensive plan.

On -- this is from the comprehensive plan that says, on the north side of Route 202 adjoining the Taconic State Parkway, the underlying zoning should be maintained with an overlay allowing office or hotel uses at the top of the hill, a village center, which we would think it works really, with small stores and limited mixed use at the bottom of the hill with pedestrian amenities, parkland and public spaces, and senior housing -- yada, yada. After reading those words it is quite

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a leap of logic to arrive at the conclusion that we are merging four separate zoning lots to create a hundred and fifty thousand square foot big box retailer giant store. In addition to that they are actually proposing a -- we'll call it tire center, auto garage and a gas station -- I am skipping that part, I got money on football that is too much.

So, I am going to cut to on January 20th, which was a log time ago when I understand there were responses to these comments from the Planning Board, these were from the Planning Department and the Engineering Department, the building inspector and the environmental consultant who wrote to the Planning Board.

And while I am aware that they -- and I am aware and I have read these comments, the applicant's responses to these, it doesn't pass the smell test. To get the Costco proposal substantially compliant with the comprehensive plan, would require a change in the essence of Costco, the Costco I know and the Costco I love.

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That said, now I am just going to read this back to you, and I am sure you've read it. This is the memo from 1/20. The public policy sections that outline the recommendations from the Yorktown comprehensive plan, the sustainable development study and the Westchester County patterns, many of these recommendations are contrary to the objectives of the Costco proposal, yet there is little discussion in the -- of the potential impacts and how the project does comply with the goals from these reports, or how the project will enhance Bear Mountain triangle, Crompond hamlet center area despite these differences. The comprehensive plan describes the C-3 Zone as a small scale roadside commercial hamlet with one-lane buffers adjacent to residential zones, twenty foot landscaped area, blah, blah, blah. I am going to even skip that because it is Monday night football.

> Cut to the chase, just assuming that we go forward and say it is compliant with

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the plan, fine, I have two requests. There are two zoning variances that the applicant seeks. One, I recommend that the Board does not endorse the zoning variance, to reduce the required number of parking spaces.

The applicant seeks a variance to eliminate twenty percent of the required parking, they base this request on an argument that Costco serves both, retail and wholesale communities. They try to claim that it is hard to assign a number of persons for which the building is designed.

As a building, code and zoning consultant with an Architecture Degree from the Cooper Union, I find that insulting. The building code is clear when it comes to allowable and proposed number of people that a structure is designed to hold. If they don't know how many people will be in the building, how will they get them out in the event of emergencies.

What will the certificate of occupancy read, I was hoping John Winter would be here, it is going to read retail, and I am guessing and if I am wrong, please

	Proceedings 93
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1	correct. The factor that's kind of
2	redundant I'll skip that, Monday night
З	football.
4	An important note, the applicant does
5	not account for the tire center or the gas
6	station in their parking calculations, it is
7	only the actually a hundred and fifty-one
8	thousand square foot, retail, wholesale,
9	hybrid membership card. This is kind of a
10	rhetorical question, but would limit the
11	number of members that can use this
12	facility? No.
13	Regardless of whether or not the
14	current proposal oh, no, that's snarky, I
15	am going to skip that. Number three, so, I
16	am saying
17	UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Get to the
18	point.
19	MR. FON: Come on guys.
20	MR. BRAY: There are several points
21	to make, thank you for the heckling now.
22	UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I think you
23	said enough.
24	MR. BRAY: Number three, this is the
25	third point.
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	Proceedings 94
1	MR. FON: Thank you.
2	MR. BRAY: And the applicant seeks a
3	fifty-six percent increase above the
4	permissible lighting mounting height,
5	twenty-five feet instead of sixteen.
6	Granting a variance to increase the height
7	of the lighting so drastically, wouldn't it
8	give most of the benefit to the shrubs and
9	planting intended to squeeze light from the
10	scenery and that can be argued, but
11	apparently our county and the classifies
12	Route 202 and the Taconic as scenic parkways
13	and or highways and we are supposed to
14	respect that.
15	The calculations submitted with the
16	DEIS, and remember there is an elimination
17	and whatever, it's like thirty-six inch
18	level above the land, it doesn't account for
19	the perception from the corridor, the 202,
20	35 and the Taconic State Parkway, or the
21	residences.
22	In fact, allowing for such a variance
23	will exacerbate the light pollution and
24	it's long story short, it makes you
25	know, fine approve Costco, but do they

1	really need the variances to increase the
2	lighting height by almost sixty percent,
3	which only does two things. It would
4	increase visibility from the Taconic State
5	Parkway and would increase visibility from
6	202 and 35.
7	I am really late for my football
8	game, so I going to conclude with thank you
9	guys for your time.
10	MR. FON: Thank you. Next is
11	Mr. Steve Kaplan. Again, his address is
12	1673 Summit Street.
13	MR. KAPLAN: Good evening, I would
14	like to thank the Planning Board and
15	everyone who is here, no matter what your
16	opinion is. My name is Steve B. Kaplan,
17	I've been working in and/or living in this
18	vicinity of Yorktown since 1979, the card is
19	on the table. For the record, I am a full
20	time citizen, part-time tree hugger.
21	I've been decades ago Yorktown
22	allowed the wetland area in the middle of
23	town to be paved over for shopping. Those
24	stores are still partly empty. It will be
25	more empty if Costco is allowed to build.

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Moreover, the allowing of impervious surface in our area is already too small to permit Costco's overload of our water, if you care. Visit the stream aside the bike trail and visibly check this out, it is very, very, gloom. The town should be doing everything possible to develop in such a way to avoid adverse effects on our environment. That's your job.

The value of our houses depends on people wanting to live here. Do you remember the tune take it easy, I guess some of us who are of a certain age. Standing on the corner in Winslow, Arizona, such a fine site to see.

Well, the last time I was in Winslow, Arizona, the site to see contained a slew of empty stores courtesy of a big box store on the interstate, and the center of the town was gutted. I couldn't even buy clothes I tried to buy some things that I hadn't had with me, and I had to walk out to the big box store. Is that the way you see our future downtown in Yorktown, and the other hamlets?

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You may all remember when we were told that road improvements would made right into the shopping in the Cortlandt Town Center easy, talk about take it easy. The truth is that we have more traffic, further widening the roads would only serve to increase to lowering our resources for ongoing traffic and sewage infrastructure, and you've been told particularly what that means by previous speakers, thank them.

The DOT suggestions according to the traffic report on the Yorktown's website, are predicted to improve traffic operations, but there will be an increase in traffic those implications.

Even if the DOT can finesse the added traffic, they will not be able to finesse the added ozone, oxides and nitrogen, the crux of CO nitrates that traffic will bring, and that assaults us daily. You already notice the damage these pollutants do to rubberized things, like tires. A decaying rubber band that you find in your home, have you ever wondered why they decay. Guess what, is the ozone oxides and nitrogen

peroxide CO nitrates.

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If you have trouble breathing peroxide CO nitrates in the parts per billion can hurt your nose. To all of you who are asthmatics or have asthmatic children in town, how many years of life do you want before you or they would have to carry a tank of oxygen with you?

To address the people who are pushing from the business end, I agree. A vital business atmosphere in Yorktown is necessary. I shop, you shop. Whatever their goal of let's say giving let's say five percent annual growth, if you think about it, we'll double Yorktown in little more than fourteen years. Do the math. Is that a sustainable rate of growth? What is a sustainable way of growth?

And, how can we actually grow within our existing infrastructure and have a really vibrant Yorktown? I think that's one of my goals. Does this project conform to the Yorktown master plan which suggests will describe our hamlets with overall attractiveness and quality with a mix of

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stores and walkability?

Finally, are the supporters of this project working for us? I ask the Town Board and the Planning Board to develop sustainably and responsibly. Thank you very much, thank you for your consideration.

MR. FON: Alright, we'll go to the next four speakers. First is Tim Miller, 10 North Street. Charles Monaco; Tony Grasso, and George Hansen if when you come up just give yours address, some of these are --my eyes are getting blurry.

MR. MILLER: Good evening, Mr. Chairman and Members of the Board, my name is Tim Miller. I am a professional planner, and I have been retained by about twenty citizens here in Yorktown to review a portion of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. My firm, Tim Miller and Associates provides planning services, most of our clients actually are real estate developers.

We've been actually retained by the Town of Yorktown, we did studies on this Bear Mountain area back I think around 1989.

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And as I am sure you know, the town has spent substantial moneys, time and effort, its citizens, its planners, its lawyers on this comprehensive plan. And along with that the Westchester County in conjunction with the Town of Yorktown and the Town of Cortlandt, spent a lot of moneys, a lot of time, a lot of people's efforts, a lot of public hearings on the sustainable throughout the study. So, it's -- from the planning point of view, it is sort of outstanding to me that this project actually is here before you.

Now, it is true that the site is on the zone C-3 and it is true that C-3 zoning as you code presently is written does allow for this use. In your comprehensive plan however, you specifically talk about C-3 zoning, and the plan says its purpose is to allow for small free standing roadside commercial uses along major arterials and the business hamlet centers but excluding auto oriented uses for the traffic -- heavy volumes of traffic.

Typical land uses include retail

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stores, personal services and restaurants, but does not include auto oriented uses. This zone replaces the C-3 Zone. This is a quote from your comprehensive plan, this is what the town adopted just two years ago. Now Costco is proposing a proposed fuel-in facility, which will be one of the largest and most traffic intensive auto oriented uses in the town.

Such uses are presently excluded in the C-3 Zone according to your comprehensive plan. The Costco facility will also have a tire facility, again, it represents a large auto oriented use. In your comprehensive plan, recommendations for Route 202 which came from the County in your sustainable development study.

The comprehensive plan acknowledges that in December of 2002, that study recommend -- the recommendations in the sustainable development study calls for a significant reduction of the proposed build at of the study area. And the overall concept put forward in this comprehensive plan, your comprehensive plan, is to make

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the Bear Mountain triangle a mix use center. Now, I've provided -- I am going to provide you with our comments, but there is an attachment that says what New York State Law as it relates to your comprehensive plan. New York State Law specifically states, that the effect that the adoption of the Town's comprehensive plan is that all town land use regulation must be in accordance with the comprehensive plan adopted pursuant to this section.

Yorktown code appears to not yet be in conformance with the zoning code, appears to not yet be in conformance with your comprehensive plan, which I think is a major issue for this project.

> The application requires variances from either the CBA or the Planning Board, major variances with respect to parking and lighting, and it requires a special permit from your town board for the fuel-in facility.

There is a section of your code that sets forth standards for a special permit, and I just invite your Planning Board to

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review those standards and certainly I would expect that the Town Board review those standards, which really call for a fuel-in facility -- a substantial fuel-in facility in such a site, to be in harmony with the appropriate and orderly development of this district, to which it is located.

Given the fact that the Route 202 corridor, which has been heavily studied with respect to traffic, has many intersections that are presently operating a level of service F. And after all these wonderful improvements are being made by the DOT unless they -- if they get made by the DOT, and by Costco, based on the information in this DEIS, there still will be eleven intersections that operate a level of service F.

And the delays after this project is built and all these improvements are made, will actually be longer -- the level of service and delays will actually be longer than they are now, they are in the future with other project. In our review, we took a look at the details of the traffic study.

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And by the way, the professionals on this team, Phil Greanly, Vince Ferrandino, TRC, I've worked with all of them, I think that they've all done an excellent job with what they had to work with. It is not my intention to disparage any of their work.

When you do a traffic study, you are you are supposed to look at existing conditions, the future conditions without the project and then the project to ascertain what the actual impacts would be, what needs to be mitigated.

In another build analysis in the market study of the DEIS, it talks about thirty unidentified stores, and twenty-five identified stores in the corridor that are presently vacant.

Now, this recession is going to end one day, we all pray, right. And when it ends, these stores, these building, these office buildings and these retail facilities will be occupied and generating traffic that is not presently happening now, because they are all vacant.

So, the traffic along Route 202 has

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to be able to accommodate this traffic and it has to be looked at. But the no-build of traffic study, that is the conditions in the future without this project, did not take into account any of the project from those vacant stores.

My other estimation there could be anywhere from a hundred to two hundred thousand square feet vacant stores that will one day be occupied. So, the traffic study we believe is not working with the proper base line, future base line conditions.

Another aspect of the study that we looked at was the trip generation associated with the Costco. I think it is probably one of the most important elements in the traffic study. We've provided a lot of detail on trip generation.

The EIS traffic study uses the Institute of Transportation Engineers rights for this kind of flaw, for peak at P.M., and Saturday peak hour. But, the ITE, the Institute of Transportation Engineers does not include traffic data from discount stores with major gas dispensing facilities.

106 Proceedings MR. FON: Mr. Miller --1 MR. MILLER: We are going to --2 3 MR. FON: I am sorry, I know you have a lot there. 4 5 MR. MILLER: I don't have a lot, I have some -- a few more important points 6 7 that --MR. FON: If you can summarize. 8 MR. MILLER: I am representing twenty 9 10 people. 11 MR. FON: Understood. MR. MILLER: I can have them all come 12 13 if you'd like. 14 MR. FON: I know you are representing 15 twenty people, I know you are licensed, but 16 if you --17 MR. MILLER: So, can I ask you my question, are you planning on keeping the 18 19 meeting open? UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Nobody is 20 21 going to listen to you anyway. 22 MR. FON: With this amount of people, 23 we are --MR. MILLER: Because if you are 24 25 planning on keeping the public hearing open,

	Proceedings 107
1	I am more than happy to curb my comments.
2	MR. FON: I would curb your comments.
3	MR. MILLER: So, you are planning on
4	keeping the public hearing open?
5	MR. FON: I think with the amount of
6	people I would say, yes.
7	MR. MILLER: Alright, so, I just want
8	to make a couple of more comments.
9	UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You are taking
10	more than five minutes.
11	MR. MILLER: Do you care about your
12	town?
13	UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes, get out
14	of here. Yeah, yeah.
15	MR. FON: Guys, guys, guys. If you
16	can address the board, let's not even go
17	with alright, again, the stenographer
18	cannot do this. Please. Thank you.
19	MR. MILLER: We believe there are
20	major issues with the trip generation in the
21	traffic study because it doesn't take into
22	account the fueling facilities and the trips
23	that will be generated by the fueling
24	facilities.
25	And we've provided a lot of

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information on that, but we believe that the traffic has been substantially under estimated through all three peak hour periods, the morning, the afternoon and the Saturday.

And we also believe that traffic should be examined for the pre-commutation peak, when school traffic is on the road, that actually has to be a time when projects like Costco have their peak hours. With respect to the level of service and delay that has to do with the operation of the intersection, the traffic study used a software program that did not take into account queues and stocking and certain geometries that exist in this hear. We believe it doesn't accurately present a picture of actually what is going to happen.

We believe that the methodology which was used Synchro and we would request that with Synchro the applicant provide to the town a model that shows visually how traffic is actually going to work. We are showing delays out there based on our review on some of the intersections that are using Synchro

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that it will be in excess of five minutes per vehicle, per intersection. I don't know how you are going to -- this corridor is going to work.

MR. FON: And that I am sure is in your report.

MR. MILLER: It is in my report and one last point. Parking. The Institute of Transportation Engineers recommends parking standards for a project of this nature. They recommend that during the December peak periods, a project of this nature requires about eight hundred parking spaces to accommodate the seasonal traffic. The applicant is proposing six hundred.

There is no overflow parking facilities, there is no back up, there is no roads for people can park on. And we believe that the parking variance is just not workable. So, we look forward to concluding our comments at your next --

MR. FON: And if you can get your report to John Tegeder and thank you for speaking for the twenty. Mr. Miller, if we can get a copy of that report.

110 Proceedings MR. MILLER: Yes, we will give you 1 2 all the copies. 3 MR. FON: Thank you. How we doing Tom. 4 5 We've got time still. TOM: MR. FON: Next is Charles Monaco. 6 7 MR. MONACO: Good evening, my name is Charles Monaco, and I am a property owner in 8 9 the Town of Yorktown. You are going to love 10 it, this is going to be so short. All I 11 have to say is that I think that this Costco 12 project will be very beneficial to the 13 growth of the 202 corridor. And I just -- I 14 was going to speak about our road upgrades 15 that has been taken care of. I was going to 16 speak about jobs and employment, that has 17 been taken care of. 18 I was going to talk about tax 19 revenues for the town and that has been 20 already covered. So, it is a one -- a three 21 second story. Last Friday I was going up 22 U.S. 1 and I saw a Costco, which I've never 23 been to, and I said just let's pull in. And 24 I just pulled in the road and as I came in 25 the road in New Rochelle, on the left was a

	Proceedings 111
1	beautiful gas station, and it said Costco.
2	And I said to myself, why is this gas
3	station beautiful, and I am going to tell
4	you why it's beautiful. Because the price
5	was \$3.87.9 cents, and that morning, in
6	town, in town that morning I paid \$4.17. I
7	think Costco is a very nice company to come
8	in will do the right thing and a lot of
9	stuff I am hearing, but in the interim Bravo
10	to the professionals. And I am all for
11	Costco.
12	MR. FON: Thank you. Next is
13	Mr. George Hansen I am sorry. Tony
14	Grecco.
15	UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Grasso.
16	MR. FON: Grasso. I can't read the
17	handwriting.
18	MR. GRASSO: Thank you very much
19	Richard. Good evening, my name is Anthony
20	Grasso and I live at 2389 Hawthorne Drive,
21	here in Yorktown. I have been a resident of
22	Yorktown for well over fifty years. During
23	that time I served the community as a Town
24	Board Member and as a Member of the
25	Conservation Board. In fact, we wrote the

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first wetlands ordinance here in town.

If you look at the graph that I have on the easel, you will note in front of you that 76.85 percent of the taxes collected in Yorktown were paid by the individual homeowners. The next largest group is the commercial development which pays 10.70 percent, followed by condos and co-ops which pay 5.76 percent and public utilities which pay 4.1 percent.

Other commercial units pay 1 percent, and agricultural and vacant land pay 1.54 percent. These numbers came directly from the town assessor. As you can see from the lions share of taxes that are generated from a single-family home, the rest of the pie makes up the balance and should someone own a business in Yorktown where he resides, he gets hit twice.

With this in mind let's go to the Costco property. A thriving business like Costco, who wishes to come to Yorktown and generate, according to the DEIS, 5.2 million dollars in state sales tax, which is returned to the communities with some of

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their needs.

Proceedings

The county portion of the state's 2 sales tax will generate 3.9 million dollars 3 which is returned to the community based on 4 5 a portion of the census population in relationship to the portion of the county 6 7 population. This is a hard figure to come to unless you have a formula right in from 8 of you to work. I tried getting this from 9 10 the county, but it would take days and they 11 just kind of pushed me off on that. 12 To give you an idea of moneys that 13 are generated by sales tax in our 2011 14 budget, it called for 4.5 million dollars. 15 We collected from the county four million 16 six hundred and ninety-three thousand 17 dollars. In 2012, our budget remained at 4.5 million dollars and to-date, we have 18 19 received two million three hundred and 20 seventy-eight thousand dollars, which represents only two payments. 21 22 You can readily see the importance of 23 sales tax revenue from this business 24 To give you an example why this is venture. 25 important to spread our tax space, let's

look at the Costco property.

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The school tax there will come to \$613,000.00 in school tax, plus a small amount from the sales tax. Now, if you take a nine acre piece of property and you change the zoning of that property to some sort of residential development and you put sixty-eight homes there, with an average of two children, you are talking of a hundred and thirty-six children to be educated.

Now, you multiply that number by \$25,470.00 per child. The cost of educating children in that small subdivision would be three million four hundred and sixty-three thousand nine hundred and twenty dollars.

Taxes generated by this piece of property would not return enough tax dollars even if it was a mixture of business and private homes. These figures come from the superintendent of schools from the Yorktown school district.

I believe the choice is simple. Commercial or single-family home development, one would choose commercial development over private homes, and I am

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sure there is no this is no brainer. It			
is not that I am against education, it is			
about balance. Unless we balance the			
equation, we, as a community will fail in			
the same direction as the town as the			
county the government is the federal			
government is heading for.			

In addition to taxes, this development, Costco, and that the State of New York will see that the road will be widen from Strang Boulevard through Pinewood with a traffic signal. I am would at this time like to -- I am looking forward for the Costco development and Richard, I would like to thank you and the Board for the time you have given me this evening.

MR. FON: Thank you, sir. Now, Mr. George Hansen will talk. Is Mr. Hansen here? Okay the next four. Andrew Fisher; Rose Marie Panio; Rachel Elliot and Barbette Bollinger. How are you, sir.

MR. FISHER: Good evening Mr. Chairman, thank you for giving me a change to speak, I will try to keep it within the five minutes if I can. 1

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MR. FON: Do you have an address?
MR. FISHER: I'm in Mohegan Lake.
MR. FON: Cortlandt or Yorktown?

MR. FISHER: Cortlandt. But I feel as much part of Yorktown. As far as I am concerned I am live as much in Yorktown, I worship in Yorktown, shop in Yorktown, commute through Yorktown, my kids go to a daycare in Yorktown, and I am appalled by the Cortlandt Town Center, which came up right after I moved right in here. I didn't even know where the Planning Board was at that time.

A couple of things. First, I know the towns have either a format or informal agreements they send copies of large development projects to their neighbors when they are within one mile of the border, this was not within the one mile of the border of Cortlandt, Peekskil or Somers for that matters, but the traffic impacts you know, the whole region and such that I really think that you should be sending copies as a professional courtesy, have your Planning Department send copies of the traffic

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studies, a list of the intersections that are being tested, to Peekskil, Cortlandt and Somers.

By the way, I've been -- over the past few years I've been a member and a Chairman of the Cortlandt Traffic Committee for four years, member for seven years. I was appointed to the Sustainable Development Study for five years, put at least two hundred hours of time into that, and I was on the County and Traffic Committee Planning Board. So, I have a little insight into traffic planning.

The trucks that are going to service this building are all going to come -- they have no other choice but to come through Route 9 on 684, and they have no choice but to go through the undersized ill-planned intersections that are sized from the 1940s and '50s, they can't handle eighteen wheelers today.

They can't handle the trucks coming to Walmart, they can't handle the truck coming in to the Cortlandt Town Center, they can't handle trucks coming to BJs, other

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than Route 202. We see that truck deliveries coming to car dealers on Route 202, they can't fit in the parking lot, because back in those days it wasn't planned properly. Sometimes they sit smacked in the middle of the turning lane of Route 202 to unload their cars. It is dangerous. This has be planned out better.

Now, the applicant may have planned for this on the property, on their property adequately, but the infrastructure around is not. And while the traffic intersection improvements that we are talking about, sound great on paper, it's in -- and they might even helped those poor intersections, it is just a band aid for the region, as other speakers have said.

The problem will be well beyond Strang Boulevard, and well beyond Pine Brook in the other direction, unless a regional plan comes together it is not going to work. The vacancy rates on Route 202, I mean, I have been here for fifteen years, and our hard economy has been there for a while, I agree with the other speaker, eventually it

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should come around, we pray, but we've got a forty to sixty percent vacancy rate on 202 for years. We have a huge parcel of land that can hold this Costco right now just sitting there.

Owners who are just not willing to accept offers or work and I think the town -- the Planning Department, the Planning Board needs to work better and make use of plans already developed instead of adding to the footprint on this property.

A lot of talk has been made of economic impact, some people are throwing around figures of our sales taxes. What your Board may not be aware of is that big corporation, like Costco and others, will go way over your head to the state, governor's office and the county executive's office and they make tax abatement deals, where they don't have to pay sales tax.

They are still allowed to collect it from the customers, but they don't necessarily have it to pay to the state tax department. I used to work for a company in Westchester -- a large Fortune 500 company,

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but they decided to relocate their corporate office within Westchester. They played the game that often corporations do.

They called the office of economic development and the Governor, they hired a few real estate brokers who said that they shopped around South Carolina, or New Jersey or Pennsylvania, and they cut a deal that says, alright, if you keep your jobs here or create your jobs here, we will give you a tax abatement for five or ten years.

So, the dollars that you think may be coming back to this community may not actually be coming back to this community. To the best that you can, check with your town attorney what language you will put in to make sure that any money you think is coming back to the Yorktown school district or the Yorktown economy really is and it is not being put on the abatement, because these things happen all the time. I mean, if you give them any trouble they go to the county executive's office, uhm, sorry, I just want to make a couple of

points here. The board, should also

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specifically -- I know many general letters went out to the school district and fire departments for comment, but as you know from the past you don't always get very specific answer backs and then most people think is routine, and they say yes, we have to educate our kids in our school district and here is what it costs, and the fire department has to give fire protection.

But, I think you should specifically detail as to the impacts on the school buses and the impacts on fire department response time. After the Cortlandt Town Center was built, before it was build out until it was built and occupied, the Mohegan Fire Department volunteers can't make it to calls that have to go across the Lexington Avenue intersection.

19 If that volunteer lives west of 20 Lexington Avenue and has a call that has to 21 go on the east side, they just give up 22 responding anymore because they can't make 23 it across and vice versa. The department 24 has struggled through all that. Those 25 developers by the way also contributed money

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towards Cortlandt for the department, so I haven't heard any offers of contributions for that from this developer.

School buses. Like, I am in the Lakeland School District, I live right over by Route 202 on the Bear Mountain Parkway. When my kids go to Lakeland Cooper Middle School, that bus goes right past where this Costco will be, to make a left on the Taconic to go north, will go left right into 132. Hundreds of buses do that every morning.

Lakeland School District wasn't asked for comments on this, only the Yorktown District was. You need to find out about the impacts that cost there to add another bus route, there is a cost to that.

Another thing, Costco, you know, estimates the number of employees they'll have, the number of parking spots they'll needs. I have to disagree with some of the other speakers about increasing, may they are suggesting they increase the number of parking spaces. Leave it where it is. I have never seen a commercial development all

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in northern Westchester that didn't over predict the number of parking spaces they need.

I know the formulas they use, and there is always an over estimated use, always, always, hundreds of vacant spots whenever you go to a shopping center. So, you probably have over estimated them.

But, when you talk about the number of employees in a store of large retailers like Costco and Walmart and others like that, don't just use have all their employees in their store, they should always use the word workers rather than employees.

Most major manufacturers send their own merchandisers and sales representatives to the store to set up the shelves, knock down the shelves, put the merchandise out on the shelves, take care of displaying, and Costco employees are mostly running the cash registers and stock.

So, you have many other workers coming to every building everyday who are not necessarily employees of Costco, but you need to include those in counting the

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traffic trips, the number of cars and parking. I have -- I know this, because I have a family member who was a merchandiser at Walmart, there is at least twenty guys everyday that work at the Cortlandt Town Center Mall. So, it is just one example. I mean those are almost all 1099 consultants, they don't get medical benefits or a great payroll treatment either.

A couple of other things about this, sorry guys. The real -- I am also concern about the different stores competing. I am quiet positive that within five years, either BJs will be out or Costco will be out. This area can't sustain both, there is plenty of evidence around that.

> Circuit City came in, was on Route 6 for several years, Best Buy decided that they needed to open up across the street, boom, Circuit was out. Bed Bath and Beyond came in, then Linens and Things had to be there to compete, boom, they are out.

You may not be aware of it now, but Walmart is now competing against itself. Walmart wants to build a new Walmart across

	Froceedings
1	the street on Route 6, across from the
2	existing location and they want to
3	intentionally keep the old Walmart vacant to
4	prevent a competitor from moving in. How do
5	you think that is gonna be. This is
6	economic development and big retail world.
7	In White Plains, where the
8	Westchester Mall was built a while ago, put
9	Sears out business and that's it. Go look
10	at Route 9 in Mohican
11	UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Can we end
12	this.
13	MR. FON: Guys.
14	UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Rules are
15	rules and
16	MR. FON: No.
17	MR. FISHER: back in the old print
18	there is a state road.
19	MR. FON: I am keeping an approximate
20	I never said hard five minutes, rather
21	than having the gentleman come back to
22	another meeting, it's best to round it up,
23	we are going to hear him and he'll be done.
24	We want to get to everybody. We do want to
25	keep away from the repetitive because we are

	Proceedings 126
1	starting to see repetitive.
2	We all know the BJs and the Costcos,
3	the competitive the competition there.
4	We've heard it once, twice, three times
5	again. Certain things we don't need to hear
6	anymore. If you can wrapped it up.
7	MR. FISHER: Fine. Sustainable
8	development study, which Yorktown does not
9	actively participate in, strongly
10	recommended consistent with a new
11	development along the Route 202 corridor.
12	Specifically citing, don't create
13	destination developments, and I feel like
14	this Costco plan as it stands now is a
15	destination development. A village style is
16	not.
17	Don't underestimate the gas station
18	impact to that, you will see who was right.
19	Costco offers cheap discounts on gas, and
20	people are going to be conscious and you are
21	going to be grossly underestimating the
22	number of traffic trips generated just for
23	gas. The Costco in Ramapo opens its gas
24	station to non-members frequently as a
25	marketing tactic from time to time to

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increase membership. I don't even have a problem with that per se, but you need to account for it.

MR. FON: Absolutely.

MR. FISHER: And please don't forget you have an approved plan for the Sinagogue across the street from this property, although it hasn't been develop yet, it is not off the books and it could be build and that wasn't accounted for, writing the traffic impacts. One quick thing, if you end up approving this at the end, I will suggest, please take your language out that restricts gas station use to members only let that be Costco's decision the way they run it.

Also the parking lot, you should allow or require that thirty percent of the spaces be pervious surfaces not impervious surfaces. There are pavers that are made that can reduce run off, if you look at the Mahopac Library on Route 6, they did that throughout their parking spaces. It can still be snow plowed. They work well and you won't have too much impervious surfaces.

	Proceedings 128
1	MR. FON: Thank you very much. We
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	are going to take a quick break for the
З	stenographer. Thank you.
4	(Whereupon, a brief recess was
5	taken. Time noted 10:05 P.M.)
6	(Whereupon, all the parties were
7	present. Time noted 10:13 P.M.)
8	MR. FON: Let's get going, thank you.
9	We are continuing with the session. Let me
10	get clear, at this point we are starting to
11	get some redundant comments and questions,
12	if we can limit those. I know people are
13	concerned about the timeframe, we want to
14	make sure we hear everybody, obviously at
15	this point we are not going to get to
16	everybody tonight but we will get to
17	everybody because we said we will. Alright,
18	Rose Marie Pino.
19	UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Paino.
20	MR. FON: I am sorry, number 15.
21	MS. PAINO: Five little letters,
22	everybody has a problem with them.
23	MR. FON: That's alright.
24	MS. PAINO: Anyway, I promise to be
25	very brief.

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MR. FON: Thank you.

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MS. PAINO: And just give you some point to ponder as if you don't have enough already. I've been -- I have lived in Yorktown for forty years now, and I have been on a number of boards and I have worked on a number of projects and the one thing that I have learned about most of that is that you can't say no to everybody.

So, I'd like for you to ponder on some of these points that I have put together. How often do we have an opportunity to bring in private money and infuse it into the local economy at this level, especially in this economy.

How often do we have a partnership of private and public money for the massive and necessary road improvements to a major state road and a link to our neighboring communities. Gave to Ford, we've gotten traffic, but not of the benefits.

How often can we add almost a million dollars to our renewed side without adding to our pupil population, at the cost of twenty-five to twenty-eight thousand dollars

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per pupil. How many single-family homes do we have to build using precious open space and adding an average of three pupil -- two to three per household to make up that revenue.

There is twenty-three thousand Americans -- twenty-three million Americans out of work. Have we become such an elitist that we'd thumb our noses at over two hundred jobs and many, many, more construction jobs in the interim, from both private and public entities.

Even a part-time job can help a senior pay their property taxes or a youngster earn some tuition money and put a lot of money into our local economy. What about the current cost of food? Food has gone up to the point where families are deciding they can no longer purchase certain foods to feed their families.

As a former retailer of forty years I know the only way to control cost is by competition. Giving the cost of gas traveling to other communities to save on their food run no longer makes sense. And

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finally, there is much to be concerned about the further of the north side of Route 202, because we've been discussing this for years, decades.

The proposed Costco site, which is currently an abandoned eyesore is not one of them. Once again, after all due diligence is done, every "I" is dotted, you just cannot say no to everything. Thank you.

MR. FON: Thank you very much. Thank you. Sixteen, and I am going to pronounce this wrong too, Rollan Ellion.

MR. ELLIIOTT: Alan Elliott.

MR. FON: Alan Elliot, 85 Jennifer Court, and seventeen will be Barbette Bollinger; Bill Kellner and Ron Buehl, those will be the next four. Thank you, sir.

MR. ELLIIOTT: I have been a resident of Yorktown since '74 and I have noticed a trend within Yorktown. We always seem to get level two stores, this is the first time that I am aware of, that we are finally getting a level one, quality store and I take my money outside of Yorktown and I go

	Proceedings 132
1	to a quality store, that's called Costco in
2	Danbury and I go there about twice a month,
3	because the prices are cheaper, quality is
4	up.
5	I can't duplicate that in Yorktown.
6	BJs to me is a second quality store, I used
7	to be a member, I am not anymore and I
8	switched to Costco. That's all I have to
9	say.
10	MR. FON: Thank you, sir. Ms.
11	Bollinger.
12	MS. BALLINGER: My name is Babette
13	Ballinger, I have been in the garment
14	industry for some forty years, I have sold
15	to every small mom and pop, every big
16	retailer that we have around here and big
17	box stores and the wholesale stores, and I
18	want to make sure that all of us here are in
19	this for the same reason. We think it is
20	going to make money for our sake, money for
21	us and support the community.
22	I want to make sure that we know what
23	we are getting and that we are not getting
24	was we are asking from them. The applicant
25	estimates that during the construction phase

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the proposed project is estimated to generate five hundred and fifty-three thousand, one hundred and twenty-five in sales tax revenue. But, they provide no breakdown as to how that figure was arrived.

Since one main argument in the DEIS is that the project is going to bring substantial tax relief to Yorktown, please have the applicant provide a detailed breakdown of how the figure was arrived and how much of this figure is of a direct benefit, to the people of Yorktown.

The DEIS claims that during the construction phase the project will create three and fifty temporary/full time equivalent construction jobs at the project site. However, no detail on what these jobs are or where these workers will come from are detailed.

And I kindly request that the applicants to the Yorktown Costco project provide the public with what these jobs are and where these three hundred and fifty people are coming from. I agree with Mr. Pescante, that one of the biggest

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unemployed groups that we have in Yorktown are in construction. Please have them provide details and include how many of the jobs that they are bringing are union jobs since so many of our residents are unemployed unionized construction workers.

Regarding Section 3-Q-5, I quote "once fully operational the project will create approximately, two hundred direct jobs with annual earnings of approximately eight million two hundred seven thousand six hundred eighty. Now, that's an average of approximately \$41,058.00 a year per person, for a thirty-five hour work weeks it comes to approximately \$22.50 an hour.

Mr. Brann detailed to us that a lot of these jobs start at about \$11.00 an hour. There is no detailed description of what these jobs are or where the jobs are, or if these jobs are going to be filled by Yorktown residents. Two hundred permanent direct jobs, many of them could come from their headquarters in the State of Washington, it is not going to helps us here. I want to know all the details.

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I kindly request that the applicant for the Yorktown Costco project provide a detailed description of the two hundred jobs, including detail on how many of the jobs are guarantied to be in Yorktown, with Yorktown residents and the residents of the five hamlets.

I also request that the applicant provide detail on the other comparable Costco stores that they have mentioned in the DEIS, regarding the number of employees, how many are local, how many are part-time and how many are full time and what the average wage is. This important component of the DEIS requires facts, not supposition and relevant on-site locations, not figures based on Washington or elsewhere that would not impact our local economy.

19In Section 3-Q-11, according to the20DEIS, Costco designates one percent of the21annual pretax profit to local charitable22organizations, but again no relevant detail23is provided. I kindly request that the24applicants of the Yorktown Costco project25specify how much dollars were provided to

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organizations in Port Chester, New York and Milford, Connecticut, and what determines eligibility and what organizations have to do to access this step.

Additionally, what is the pretax profit of those stores so that the citizens of Yorktown can have a realistic idea of what this would actually mean in dollars. Finally, are membership fees from a specific location included since as much if not all of the profits of Costco, according to Jim Kramer, come from their membership fees and only a very small amount from the sale of goods and services.

I think that all of these are key issues, I think that there is a enormous amount of supposition in the DEIS by the applicant in conclusions that they are making in order to justify the addition of a hundred and fifty thousand square foot warehouse by using outdated models of consumer and retail behavior. Within a ten mile radius we have a

Within a ten mile radius we have a population of two hundred and forty-four thousand, which is approximately

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ninety-three thousand families. Westchester County we are said to have a medium income here of eighty thousand dollars per family, that is not in Yorktown, we are actually bellow that in Yorktown.

We have two corridors here that go from north to south. 684, which no one has mentioned tonight and the Taconic Parkway. If you took -- go ahead and you look at this realistically, and you take out of the two hundred and forty-four thousand people, the people that are on the 684 corridor, who probably aren't gonna be coming back and forth on Route 6, which is a bottleneck and God knows what is going to happen to Route 35, or other east west corridor, you are going to eliminate most of the high payers, the people who meet the Costco profile, such as Goldens Bridge and Bedford, which kind of take that \$80,000.00 figure.

Instead we are going to be left with our biggest population basis here of Ossining and Peekskill. And in case you are wondering what the medium income is in those places, is \$47,000.00. So, I think that the

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figures that we are being given and told and said where Costco is not gonna canalize the current retail environment that we have, it's just plain not true.

In order for them to make their figures they are going to have to go into that four hundred and twenty-five million that is currently being done by our local businesses and I just shudder to think on what kind of blight that is going to cause in our community and additional unemployment. Thank you.

MR. FON: Thank you. We need a quick minute just to change the tape. You can stay where you are, it won't take long. Thank you.

(Whereupon, a brief recess was taken.)

MR. FON: Okay, we are on tape three of the Costco hearing. Mr. Bill Kellner.

MR. KELLNER: Hi, thank you. My name is William Kellner, I am a resident of Hunter Brook Road, in Yorktown. I am going into greater detail of my written comment, I am going to skip some of that to see if I

can get that done in five minutes.

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The focus of my comments to the question of whether there is adequate access for public proposed transportation to the site of the proposed Costco wholesale store. Public transportation access is important because it allows shoppers and workers who do not own cars or do not drive the ability to reach the facility.

It conserves all the greenhouse gas emissions associated with the site by reducing the number of automobile trips which also helps to lessen other forms of air and water pollution. A facility with a high public transportation access rate can have small parking lots with an intended reduction in the environmental impacts, free public transportation to the site allows depressed communities access jobs.

As the DEIS points out, the only scheduled public transportation to the proposed Costco site is provided by the number 15 Bee Line Bus. The number 15 bus travels between Peekskill and White Plains. On weekdays it makes seven trips from White

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Plains to Peekskill and eight trips from Peekskil to White Plains. Intervals between runs as much as two hours. Saturday there are two northbound and three southbound trips only, there is no service Sunday and Holidays.

According to the DEIS, the nearest bus stop to the project is located at the intersection of Route 202 and Strang Boulevard, approximately twelve hundred feet from the Costco main driveway access on Route 202 and approximately seventeen hundred feet from the building entrance.

Now, the DEIS does indicate that a sidewalk will be built from the bus stop to the west entrance of the project's site along the Route 202 right of way, and we've heard a little bit about that sidewalk from other comments. This sidewalk should also be made to continue from Route 202 -- from the right of way to the store entrance, following the main driveway into the parking lot.

> Failure to create a sidewalk that come all the way from the bus stop on Strang

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Boulevard to the store entrance will result in unacceptable hazards to pedestrians. This Board must also seek to it, that provision is made for ongoing maintenance of the sidewalk. There must be a mechanism for timely removal of snow and ice to the entire length of the sidewalk, including the portion owned by the State of New York and not run by the developer or landlord of the Costco site.

Failure to provided for sidewalk maintenance and snow and ice removal will result in potential hazards to the pedestrians and liability to the public and private owners of the sidewalk.

The above discussion of the sidewalk -- the new sidewalk not withstand, failure to bring public bus riders closer to the store entrance is a serious short coming on the applicant's plan, causing bus riders to walk seventeen hundred feet, about a third of a mile from the store entrance to the bus stop, while carrying their purchases is unacceptable and will result in reduced public transportation use -- transportation

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usage by Costco shoppers as well as employees.

Mitigation of this problem could be done by altering the route of the number 15 bus, so that it enters the project site and continues to the newly created bus stop close to the store building. This was done at the Cortlandt Town Center where buses were re-routed into the site and bus stops were built close to the store entrances.

It forces public transportation users to walk seventeen hundred feet in inclement weather is tantamount to providing no public transportation access. This board has as its constituents those who drive their own cars and those who don't.

While the needs of automobile user are carefully considered in the DEIS, public transportation appears to be an after thought. I will suggest that Members of the Planning Board make an additional official visit to the project site, this time instead of driving put yourself in the shoes of the Costco customers and employees who will arrive by public transportation.

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I suggest you board the northbound number 15 bus at Yorktown Town hall and ride to the bus stop at Strang Boulevard. After leaving the bus, walk the seventeen hundred feet to where the store entrance will be, then walk back to the bus stop and board the southbound number 15 back to town hall.

This exercise should convince you of the inadequacy of public transportation as enumerated in the DEIS. The suggested site visit by bus will inform members of this board about the lack of adequate frequency of service provided by the number 15 bus. Intervals between buses on weekdays is much too long providable access of public transportation for Costco customer and employees, and I already spoke about almost no service on Saturday and none on Sunday.

Again, contrasts with the Cortlandt Town Center where three bus lines provide frequent access, seven days a week. The DEIS fails to provide statistics about potential public transportation usage. It would be informative to see how many Costco customers and employees arrive by public

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transportation at existing Costco locations.

The DEIS fails to provide a full discussion of how adequate public transportation may be provided to the Yorktown site. Instead, it tersely enumerates the inadequacy of the existing bus service. Failure to address problems that give access to the site by public transportation should result in the denial of the application by this board.

This will be fully consistent with the role of this Board as a Lead Agency under SEQRA; it is not 1969. Yorktown has to be a host of back development that only considers the needs of the automobile. In 2012 we know that the needs of pedestrians and public transportation users are not after thoughts.

Projects of the scope of the proposed Costco store that fail to provide meaningful access by those who are unable or choose not to drive should not the be accrued. Thank you.

MR. FON: Thank you very much. Mr. Buehl?

	Proceedings 145
1	MR. BUEHL: I'll be short and sweet.
2	MR. FON: Thank you, sir.
3	MR. BUEHL: My name is Ron Buehl, I
4	am President of the Huntersville Association
5	which has about two hundred active members.
6	As a member of the association I've been
7	quiet concerned about the building of Costco
8	on Route 202 and I am not going to say
9	anything about serious economic and
10	enviromental issues, which we are hearing a
11	great deal of tonight.
12	Our concern as a neighborhood is the
13	inevitable increase on traffic on
14	Hunterbrook and Baptist Church Roads, which
15	are narrow and hilly and sometimes
16	dangerous. Add to that the increased number
17	of cars and trucks on Route 129, and I think
18	we will be living a nightmare.
19	No where in the master DEIS was there
20	mentioned any traffic on these road, the
21	document on that fails. The developer's
22	traffic studies confines mainly the
23	westbound route corridor which is already a
24	nightmare. That study is grossly optimistic
25	and as members of the Planning Board you

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have to be aware of the size of this plan negative potentials. Please add the association's concern a long list of flaws in the Costco DEIS. And by the way, I am a fan of Costco, it just doesn't belong here, but I like Costco.

MR. FON: Thank you. Alright, this is another one that I can't read. 1450 Old Logging Road. Our next four, this one I can read. Joe Foley; Lou D'Amico; Dom Mascioli Bill Primavera are the next four. How are you?

MRS. BUEHL: Good evening, thank you. I too have something for you but I'll cut it short as much as possible, maybe I can borrow a minute from my husband since he did so great.

MR. FON: Can you just do me a favor and read your name into the record. MRS. BUEHL: Olivia Buehl. MR. FON: Thank you.

22 SPEAKER: Old Logging Road.
23 MR. FON: That we got.
24 MRS. BUEHL: Okay?
25 MR. FON: Thanks.

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MRS. BUEHL: The DEIS, states that nine major retail categories will be sold to Costco. Including are home, food and bakery and prepared foods, food eating away from home and alcohol consumed at home. Prescription drugs and medical supplies, household furnishings and appliances. Housing related and professional goods and services. Housing -- personal care and smoking products, sports and entertainment services and products. Gasoline, motor and tires; apparel, footwear, for adults and children.

Why do I mention these -- all these categories, because what is not stated in the DEIS is that Costco sales a number of other business services. I have here within your packet a two -- one and a half page of tiny, tiny, typed list of all the categories that are available at Costco and I do know because I am a member and I happily drive to Port Chester or Danbury.

The reason I bring this up -- by the way this includes flowers, jewelery, Costco is one of the largest retailers of jewelery

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in the nation, pet supplies, care and medics which my husband uses glasses and contact lenses which I use, again it is one of the major sellers of optical products. Water delivery; auto, and home and health insurance, sometimes you get kind of surprised.

You can even buy your funeral, buy your casket, your coffin, your floral arrangements, they sell everything in Costco. I have to say they got it right, they sale from basinets coffins. For a more complete list you'll have this in your packets.

The second list is important and it provides a much more realistic idea of the web of Costco's retail muscle. Quote -going to the DEIS, "overall there are in excess of four hundred establishments and one hundred ninety-eight retail establishments in the studied area".

The reason I bring that up is that I don't think that the DEIS adequately looks at all the retail establishments that would be impacted by Costco. In fact, what I did

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was to look through for some of my favorite retailers and couldn't find it listed all in the supposedly complete list of retailers.

And many of the retailers that sell products and services that they do appear on the list are not considered relevant retailers. I like the enumeration there. A relative retailer is a company whose products or services overlap Costco in all other departments, since this exercise. The applicant's conclusion that "given the size and product line of the proposed Costco, the consumer trade areas could absorb the promised use retail space".

It is questionable, given that the population of Yorktown and the rest of northwest Westchester has actually declined in recent years according to the census. More of the numerous states of the impact in -- of local retail after a big box store comes to town provide powerful evidence of such stores, including warehouse clubs destabilize local retailer.

All of those you'll find in the fat packet that was I was ready to leave, those

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studies. To accurately understand the facts that Costco insisting since this is required of all local retail businesses, not just a cherrypicked list that's provided in the DEIS. By that I mean any business that sales a product or service that appears on the Costco card index, which you will be getting.

Let's look at the grocery category, it is a perfect example of what can happen when a market becomes saturated. Witness the closure of Food Emporium another sign of blight, at that end -- that end of the Kmart Shopping Center, it does not go well with the applicant's study, shows a negative number in this category. That means that the geographical area discussed in the study has an excess of what is considered an appropriate number of retail square footage in this category.

The applicant claims that there are available to our spending most of the categories, with the exception of fuel, oil and tires, and they are in the traffic category, and the other one is food. There

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appears to be a number of -- a negative amount of food stores, that is more than forty million dollars.

In plain English that means that forty millions that Costco would presumably coach from, would come from dollars currently being spent at two A&Ps, Turcos, Deccicos, as well as specialty food stores such as Mrs. Greens, and A&S Pork store, it takes lightly that the faith of the Food Emporium which happens to a grocery store.

There are three areas of inadequacies that I see and it is listed in the front with retailers. The list of retailers and service provided to the hamlets has been conveyed, number one. Number two, certain retailers and service providers are not being included with the retailers, even though their products do compete with products sold at Costco.

And thirdly, the data competence itself in certain categories, I will give you a few examples the list and there are far more, if you want to look for them. For some reason, certain businesses aren't just

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listed, Deccicos is not listed anywhere in the market study including local retail. Tompkin's Garage, my neighborhood garage, have the best grease and oil price in Yorktown, was not listed in the other providers of gasoline and/or oil.

Paneras is not listed anywhere. It is most definitely wrong and incomplete list. The CST Creations, a custom kitchen vendor is considered relevant, why is there no mention of Caroline Kitchens on Crompond Road in Yorktown Woodwork on Front Street, which also provided custom kitchens. Why is Sports Attic listed but not Sports Farm. It is just -- the study is riddled with omissions.

I respectfully request that the applicant expand the market study and commercial character assessment to include all four hundred existing businesses in the five hamlets to allow a more accurate assessment of what is a "relative retailer and what is not", and to then thus allow us to see what percent of current retailers could be affected by Costco.

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And again, I understand perfectly that they are not -- competition is inevitable in the retail world. I am talking about the issue of blight here. The second category that is confusing me, is why relative retails and service providers are not designated as well as retailers.

For example, diners. Well, people are not going to go to Costco and have a meal obviously, if they are there and the food is there in their food court, they sell a meal there. I know they are not going to have anything like a diner, that creates a potential situation.

Fast foods, ditto, the same thing, they are not included in the report as well, they are not included in the report at all. That has the same argument. Costco has an incredible delicatessen department, why is that not in the DEIS, as a relative retailer. Same thing for bakeries; fabulous bakery. Once you have a Costco in town nobody gets their birthday cakes anywhere else for their kids parties.

Costco is a major purveyor of

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eyeglasses, why is Sterling Optical and Lens not considered "relative retailers". Costco even offers mortgages and financial services, home, health and auto insurance. So, some of these services can also impact individuals who run such service industry -such businesses including traveling agencies.

My last comment is on contradictory designations. I am an editor, I just love finding this kind of the stuff. Perhaps the most perplexing situations of those is that one business is consider a relevant retailer and another similar business is not. For example, Baskin Robbins is not considered a relevant retailer. So, why is Abbot's Frozen Custard and Carvel considered relevant retailers. Maybe it is just a mistake, but that kind of makes you feel uneasy about it. How are things put together.

The DEIS states on page two of the retail market study that one of Costco's nine major categories includes alcohol consumed at home. Yet none of the liquor

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and wine merchants listed in Appendix K are considered relevant retailers.

Please have the applicant clarify whether alcohol, other than beer and wine will be sold at this Costco. If they are not going to sell such beverages and have no plans to sell such beverages in any future date, those should be removed from page two. That data about selling alcohol which is currently on page two of the market report should be removed from the DEIS.

Likewise page two, there is clothing and shoes for adults and children is a key category to be sold at Costco, but none of the establishments -- very few of the establishments that sell those products, I think TJ Max is listed in footwear, many of them at the JV mall which have enough troubles as it is, are considered relevant. How come, I don't get it? Why are some relevant and not others? I respectfully request that the applicant clarify those kind of

contradictions which significantly change the percentage of relevant vendors from what

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is cited in the DEIS. Costco -- this is my favorite, why is Sleepys in the Triangle Shopping Center not considered relevant, but the Sleepys in the BJs Shopping Center is. That's two.

MR. FON: Alright. I think we get a gist of your review of the document.

MRS. BUEHL: The sloppiness of data provided including a significant number of omissions and contradictions cast doubt in the validity of the applicant's conclusion, that Costco will not put out local of businesses and cause economic division and blight.

Please have the applicant prepare a more complete and true study and include all of the businesses in Yorktown as detailed as possible. Thank you.

MR. FON: You will see that we get a copy of that. Thank you. Mr. Joe Foley.

MR. FOLEY: Good evening, I have been a resident of Yorktown since 1991 and I am also a small business owner and I have been a business owner in Yorktown Heights since 1979. Most of the stuff that I was going to

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talk about everybody has already said, practices -- I think jobs are very, very, apparent, I get a lot of kids, I get a lot of people that come in and they are just looking for jobs, they are just looking for ways to earn some extra money. So, I just think that's really, really, a strong thing for the community.

And -- but also from -- I have listened to the speaker prior and I am certainly not as prepared at all, I am just going to be very, very, brief, but, a little bit with respect to this, I don't think that the people that are going to go to Costco, they are still going to go to Sports Barn. I still think they are going to go to Deccicos.

> I think it is a totally different environment when you go to a bigger store, I think the smaller retail -- I think the restaurants will do well, I think the mall will do well, I think there is going to be -- it will bring a lot of more people in the area.

> > So, I think to some degree a lot of

the retail environment and I think the small 1 business environment will still be able to 2 thrive with BJs here. Obviously the taxes 3 are -- and most of the other stuff that has 4 5 already been said before, I just -- I had a little different spin on the small business 6 7 and I think we will be successful with the addition of Costco and also it will help us 8 to be able to purchase better products for 9 10 our businesses so we can run our businesses. 11 I think it will also make BJs 12 possibly be a better store of their own and 13 improve what they are doing right now. So, 14 I just -- as a small business owner I 15 support the project. Thank you. 16 MR. FON: Don Mascioli, 1682 -- no. 17 Here we go. After him, Bill Primavera; 18 Larry Centone; I am. 19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You 20 forgot Louie. 21 MR. FON: Oh, no, I am sorry Lou, I 22 am jumping around, I apologies. That will 23 be next four. 24 MR. D'AMICO: Boy, that is a bad 25 I had quite a revelation tonight. sign. Ι

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had all these information planned what I was going to say tonight, but then that young lady back there told me that my house was going to burn down, I am going to glow in the dark because Indian Point is going to blow up. Since again there was a time, you know, everybody knows it, she is always talking about it all the time, right.

Look, there is pros and cons to this. Like Rose Marie said, let's not say no to everything. Home Depot, remember that. Is the gentleman from Cortlandt still here? Well good, thanks to all this hysteria twenty years ago, Home Depot picked itself up and moved to the other side of Lexington Avenue. We get all the traffic, Cortlandt gets all the revenue.

Let's not be stupid again, okay. These guys have done their homework, they may have left a few things out. You cannot not blame them. I am sure when they come out with all their reports like this, you know they do a lot of figures.

However, I am still going to go to Richie to by my appliances, I am still going

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to go to A&S to buy my cold cuts. Yeah, I'll go to Costco, I am a member of Costco. I like a lot of stuff they got. But that doesn't mean that I am going to abandon my small businesses that I have been using here for years.

I have been here since 1981. I know what is going on, I know who my friends are, I know what is going on. But Costco is a good thing. You can't have just -- you know, this is not blue collar village that it was in the '50s. There is no more farms anymore, we have to come into the twenty-first century.

Let's not be stupid, this is a good project. It is good for the community, it is good for the town. Let's do it.

MR. FON: Thank you.

MR. MASCIOLI: My name is Dominic Mascioli, I've been here forty-eight, maybe fifty years altogether, and I have been listening to the negative opinion about Costco coming to our area. Costco is the best thing that can happen to Yorktown. Costco's progress in this area give the

people of the town choice and value, where they shop. With progress you have to expect more traffic and less traveling for the average person. They will not affect -- it will not jeopardize the lives of those for emergency vehicles, they will just go around the traffic, just like they do in other congested areas such as Brookfield, Connecticut, where they a Costco, Stew Leonard's, BJs is ready to open right down the road, okay, and Khol's and gas stations, and guess what, everyone is doing business on that same road.

Costco will not hurt of business here that have been a pretty successful business for this area, as we are twenty to thirty years behind the times. It has six hundred and thirteen stores, it has to tell you something. It will bring quality and value, eliminate travel to Brookfield, or Danbury, or Yonkers, or White Plains. With the price of gas people deserve to shop in this town. Thank you. MR. FON: Thank you. Mr. Primavera,

how are you, sir.

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MR. PRIMAVERA: I'm fine, thank you. I am a resident of Yorktown Heights for forty years and it wasn't intended that way. I was going to be a transient resident, and my foot got stuck in the door.

I was a public relations executive on Madison Avenue, I was invited to help build the Culinary Institute of America when it first started in 1972. I picked Yorktown Heights accidently, I just got a pin and put it on the map and it stuck right in the middle between New York State and Hyde Park, New York, forty-seven miles from each place because I didn't want to spend all my time on the road.

And then I thought, well after I get the development fund going I will go back to New York City, which I love. Well, my foot got stuck in the door because of the fact that I fell in love with Yorktown Heights and I think that everybody here has a love affair with Yorktown, so that's why we are all here, for that and other reasons.

Yorktown has been my lucky town in very big ways and very small ways too. When

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I left the culinary institute it was in 1980, just when the big surge of interest in restaurants and food and wine, all the things that I specialized in, were really coming to the floor and I thought, gee, I think I'll start a public relations firm dedicated just to that, and I was the first specialty firm that specialized only and exclusively in life styles, which also included housing development and design.

And I thought, well where can I do that? Can I go back to New York? But at the time I really couldn't afford it, so I bought this big old colonial house in Yorktown Heights, which could serve perfectly well for an office I opened it up and within three years I had a national reputation through some big accounts I was getting, including Kraft Foods, Hallmark Cards, Ruth's Chris Stakehouse, the Italian government for all its wines.

And the question that I would be asked whenever they thought I as living in Los Angeles or Chicago would be, where is Yorktown Heights? And I like to think that

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because of my work and my promotion in the			
editorial field through a conference site			
that I developed called the Food Beverage			
Conference, more and more people were			
starting to ask about Yorktown Heights and			
learn about Yorktown and now nobody asks			
when I say, well I am from Yorktown Heights.			

But, something happened significantly, which is rather traumatic, just like everybody who had an experience with 911 and it kind of changed my perspective of life. I would be on the road eighty percent of the time because of my business opening another restaurant and that sort of thing.

I went to Kansas City and I remember that I was in a social setting with the executives of Hallmark cards and everybody there seemed to know everybody else in town, and I thought, my God, I have lived in Yorktown for thirty years and I really don't know anybody in the town. That really upset me, and I thought the time I have left I really want to get involved in my community. So, I became a columnist, some of you

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here may have seen my column some of my issues, Lifestyle issues and I started contributing to the town as I could as a volunteer with ABACA and then I also got a real estate, and many of us here that I see here, are from the real estate industry including a member of the board, and that's because real estate is big business in this town.

With only one exception, everybody that I talk to in the real estate industry is very, very, anxious for Costco to be here, because one of the questions we get when people consider moving to Yorktown is, is it a Startbucks kind of town and is it a Costco kind of town. And this is very much true by our statistics.

A Coldwell banker in -- at the end of 2011 did some research and talked to may first time home buyers and said, what do look for in your first home. The main thing they looked for it that the home be in good condition, and I thought the next thing would certainly schools, but it is not. You know what the second thing is, great

shopping, and the other thing -- oh, the third thing is schools by the way.

And you know what they like the least, high taxes. So, I think just in the environment of Costco it takes care of two of these problems, it gets us great shopping and it helps with our taxes. That's all I have to say except that my public relations firm is active and when I received a call from the representative for Breslin and Costco, I research who I work for, and I knew a lot about of Costco, but I didn't know anything about Breslin.

But, when I researched I liked everything that I read, what I particularly liked is that Wilbur Breslin whose quoted once as saying, "I always leave a place better than I find it". And I think that's what Costco will do that if it comes to Yorktown. Thank you.

21 MR. FON: Mr. Larry Centone, 22 Crompond Road; and after that we are going 23 to get to one more, Vincent Scotto, 2460 24 Bedford Street.

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MR. CENTONE: How do you do.

	Proceedings 167			
1	MR. FON: How are you.			
2	MR. CENTONE: In the interest of			
3	being brief I would say that most of what I			
4	wanted to talk about was getting an			
5	extension for the proper review. But, it			
6	appears that, that point might be moot now,			
7	is that correct?			
8	MR. FON: We will have to continue on			
9	whatever that is.			
10	MR. CENTONE: I appear on behalf of			
11	Richard Steadman, and attorney for what has			
12	become a large group of Yorktown community			
13	staples, people who have chosen Yorktown to			
14	both, live in, to conduct businesses.			
15	As was stated here before, it is			
16	about balance, the SEQRA process as everyone			
17	knows is about balancing the possible gains			
18	against the possible adverse impact, okay.			
19	That's the job of the applicant to put it to			
20	us, but of course the applicant the			
21	applicant is going to paint with a certain			
22	brush, and that's to be expected.			
23	That's the reason for the review and			
24	the comments of the public, to make sure			
25	that everything that is in the DEIS is			

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accurate, or deep enough, or enough detail. Because of our concerns that this project is too intensive for use in this site and it does have the ability to alter every aspect of our community, we've being reviewing the DEIS, and we have been listening with the assistance of professionals in a number of areas to assist us. Theses professionals include attorneys, environmental specialist, traffic engineering, and apparently there was a has retained stormwater engineer among others.

Although the town has been seeing erasions of this document for about a year, we, the impacted community had only had thirty days and on these thirty days however, our team has identified major deficiencies concerning the following areas just to name a few, and I will be brief on this, because they've been talked about.

The traffic. Well, the traffic study is there and you will be getting a heck of a good size report. What that will show that a lot of these numbers are either understated or don't show some of the

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negatives. A failure to identified adequately and clarify the impacts of the proposed surge water diversions, that also will be forth coming.

A substantial deviation from the town's existing comprehensive plan, which I believe by the way may putting the town in the position of some liability, that is coming.

MR. FON: No disrespect, but a lot of that has been talked about. If you got anything that hasn't been -- we know you have a report coming and we will wait to see that, but if there is anything new at this point we would --

MR. CENTONE: Yeah, the new thing now is that in an effort to give a proper review we need more time --

MR. FON: We understand that.

MR. CENTONE: We have experts that are coming. Well, the best example then is something that has been only touched on and that's the blighting of the community.

MR. FON: Well, we've talked about that too.

170 Proceedings MR. CENTONE: Come on, you told me at 1 the last meeting that everybody we'll get 2 3 the proper time --4 MR. FON: You have been talking about 5 the same --6 MR. CENTONE: Yes, except that I --7 the expert --MR. FON: We've talked about blight. 8 9 MR. CENTONE: -- the expert comments 10 on this because you said --11 MR. FON: Do you have new information 12 because I know you have a report coming 13 because you represent a group. So, if you 14 have new information and counsel if I am 15 misspeaking please help. If you have new 16 information that we haven't heard tonight, 17 again, because you are a consultant --18 MS. HOCHMAN: All of your written 19 comments will be accepted and included in 20 the Final DEIS. 21 MR. CENTONE: Well, I understand that 22 the people here don't want to hear bad 23 things, but the trouble is that if we don't 24 look at the bad things, we won't know if we 25 are making a mistake.

	Proceedings 171
1	MS. HOCHMAN: But the chairman was
2	very clear in saying
3	MR. FON: And we will look at them.
4	MR. CENTONE: Now, we've got a number
5	of gas stations in this town that are
6	not written about, no one has talked about
7	that yet. You've got a negative sales of
8	
	sixteen millions of dollars in the gas
9	station industry alone, okay. Costco will
10	do forty million dollars, there is no chance
11	that they will not blight the community of
12	that individual center alone. The same with
13	the groceries that has already been said.
14	UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Good, good.
15	MR. CENTONE: Good, it is not a
16	question of good.
17	MR. FON: Guys, guys.
18	MR. CENTONE: The competition is not
19	a problem, is the blight that occurs.
20	MR. FON: And we've talked about
21	blight, so if there is anything new, we
22	looked forward to your report, okay. We
23	will review at length.
24	MR. CENTONE: Okay, I am respectfully
25	submitting a request for the extension based

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	Proceedings 172
1	on everything that I said
2	MR. FON: Than you very much.
3	MR. CENTONE: and I will call it a
4	day.
5	MR. FON: I appreciate that.
6	MR. CENTONE: Thank you.
7	MR. FON: Thank you. We are going to
8	have one more and then we are going to wrap
9	it up for the night. Vincent Scotto.
10	MR. SCOTTO: Vincent Scotto, 2460
11	Millpond Street, resident of Yorktown for
12	thirty-eight years. It has been my
13	experience and the residents that live in
14	the Millpond area, that well development
15	through the years, we've experienced severe
16	flooding, and it started in 1968 with
17	Wrights. I am going to try to make this
18	short.
19	MR. FON: Thank you.
20	MR. SCOTTO: Two weeks after Wrights
21	got in there, there was severe flooding.
22	The town came in, and they were responsible
23	people. Mr. Spadacia and Mr. Popovic, the
24	highway superintendent. They eventually
25	dredged that stream, for years we had no

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flooding. Very good, but then along came BJs. Five acres of trees taken down. We had severe flooding after that.

Then we had the Deer Hollow Estates. We've had so much flooding that the centers -- the silt came down, and then we had the widening of the Garden State Parkway. Now, that community was built in 1956 when there were no wetland laws and is it full of underground streams.

You got not just the Hunterbrook, but you got the stream coming down from Lexington, sneaks its way along Route 202 and then comes between Hunterbrook and Battle Brook. At the end of Hunterbrook, five houses before the Hunterbrook Park, five of those residents were forced by FEMA to get guess what, flood insurance.

Now, the whole place is a flood area. Now, you got Costco on top of the hill and on top of it, I don't think the DEIS approached this, but you got Crompond Crossings. What is the effect on that stream gonna be. By the way, if you are gonna have a lot of real estate people

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showing prospective owners houses in the Millpond area, are they gonna to say good luck, this is a flood area. Good for business, huh.

But, my proposal is that Costco is spending so much money for the corridor, for the sewers and now the Jewish center. Why don't they spend money on flooding, why don't they dredge that stream. That's it.

MR. FON: Thank you very much.

MR. SCOTTO: By the way, is the town gonna throw the people -- the residents of the Millpond area to the lions just because of money. People that don't live in that area, don't walk in our shoes.

MR. FON: Thank you, sir. Alright, in light of all the comments that we still have in front of us, next time we are going to start at number twenty-seven, Ben Falk. And there is still an open sign-in sheet, I guess you can sign it at the next meeting, we have it here at the front desk.

23 MR. CAPELLINI: Mr. Chairman, when 24 would that next meeting be?

MR. FON: We are going to go to that

	Proceedings 175	
1	right now, I just can't see.	
2	MR. CAPELLINI: Thank you.	
3	MR. FON: Alright, so the next	
4	meeting we have available is on the 29th.	
5	UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You have to	
6	vote, don't you have to extend the notice	
7	now.	
8	MR. FON: Well, we are going to go to	
9	that date.	
10	UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Will the tapes	
11	be available before that meeting?	
12	MR. FON: If anybody wants to just	
13	hold your thought because we still have the	
14	stenographer here. I have a motion to	
15	adjourn the Costco DEIS site plan public	
16	hearing to October 29, 2012. Just give us	
17	one second.	
18	Alright, do I have a motion to	
19	adjourn the public hearing of Costco DEIS	
20	and site plan to October 29, 2012. All in	
21	favor.	
22	THE PLANNING BOARD: Aye.	
23	MR. FON: Any opposed? Motion	
24	carries. That's the hearing of Costco for	
25	tonight. We have one more application if	

	Proceedings 176
1	you would like to stay.
2	MR. CAPELLINI: Mr. Chairman, where
3	will that meeting be held at.
4	MR. FON: That is to be determined.
5	We might have to find a bigger location.
6	MR. TEGEDER: If that is not the case
7	
8	MR. CAPELLINI: Thank you very much.
9	MR. FON: As the planning
10	commissioner said, right now is scheduled
11	for 1094, if anything changes we'll make
12	everybody aware of it. Thank you and have a
13	good night. We have one more application.
14	(Time noted 11:12 p.m.)
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	Proceedings	178
\$	1865 [2] 10/20 53/24	4
	1940s [1] 117/19	
\$11.00 [2] 51/12 134/17 \$11.50 [2] 51/13 51/14	1956 [1] 173/9 1968 [1] 172/16	4,000 [1] 52/1 4-24 [1] 39/18
\$110,500.00 [1] 47/3	1969 [1] 144/13	4.1 [1] 112/10
\$111,000.00 [1] 47/10	1972 [1] 162/9	4.5 [1] 113/14
\$113,000.00 [1] 48/21 \$114,000.00 [1] 47/21	1973 [1] 58/22 1974 [2] 1/8 7/14	4.5 million [1] 113/18 40 [2] 15/6 16/14
\$135,902.00 [3] 82/11 83/5	1974 [2] 1/8 7/14 1978 [1] 55/16	
83/11	1979 [2] 95/18 156/25	5
\$16,424.00 [1] 47/3	1980 [1] 163/2	5.2 [1] 112/23
\$16,500.00 [1] 47/7 \$22,000.00 [1] 47/23	1981 [1] 160/7 1983 [1] 52/11	5.76 [1] 112/9 50 [2] 13/20 16/14
\$22.50 [1] 134/15	1989 [1] 99/25	500 [2] 34/12 119/25
\$25,470.00 [1] 114/12	1991 [1] 156/22	55 [1] 13/21
\$3.87.9 [1] 111/5	2	6
\$4.17 [1] 111/6 \$41,058.00 [1] 134/13	20 [6] 22/13 22/17 22/17 22/20	63.5 [1] 41/18
\$47,000.00 [1] 137/25	22/21 91/3	63.5 million [1] 41/21
\$48,680.00 [1] 51/16	2000 [2] 58/17 58/20	66 percent [1] 21/14
\$613,000.00 [2] 47/16 114/3	2002 [1] 101/19	684 [4] 76/11 117/17 137/7
\$77,600.00 [1] 47/8 \$80,000.00 [1] 137/20	2008 [2] 13/21 13/23 2010 [4] 5/2 5/7 5/11 39/17	137/12 684-0201 [1] 1/25
\$819,146.00 [1] 82/9	2010 [4] 5/2 5/7 5/11 39/17 2011 [2] 113/13 165/19	7
\$911,000.00 [1] 47/13	2012 [9] 1/9 6/3 6/13 67/21	
\$92,000.00 [2] 47/14 47/19	70/8 113/17 144/16 175/16	7.5 [1] 17/24
1	175/20 2014 [1] 29/15	7.L [2] 77/22 79/19 76.85 [1] 112/4
'50s [2] 117/20 160/12	2014 [1] 29/15 2015 [1] 66/25	7:35 [1] 1/9
'74 [1] 131/20	202 [87] 11/25 16/2 18/25	8
–	25/13 26/11 26/21 27/7 27/12	8.2 [1] 46/12
	27/17 27/25 28/11 29/19 29/24 	800 [2] 55/13 55/15
1/1 1/7	32/6 32/13 34/24 36/9 36/19	83 [1] 10/15
my [1] 99/11	39/21 40/2 42/23 44/18 54/7	85 [1] 131/14
0	59/3 63/22 65/23 68/8 68/9	8:50 [1] 66/18 8:58 [1] 66/20
0201 [1] 1/25	68/13 69/7 69/18 70/19 70/21 72/18 73/2 74/23 75/9 76/3	8th [1] 5/7
1	76/8 77/3 77/7 77/17 79/1	9
	79/3 79/5 79/10 80/14 80/17	
1.4 [1] 46/20 1.54 [1] 112/12	81/8 81/12 81/22 83/21 84/8	9/10s [1] 15/21 90 [1] 50/25
1/20 [1] 91/3	84/9 86/6 86/15 86/19 86/22 87/3 87/7 89/16 94/12 94/19	911 [1] 164/11
10 [3] 14/8 51/4 99/8	95/6 101/15 103/8 104/25	914 [1] 1/25
10 acres [1] 14/18	110/13 118/1 118/3 118/6	98 [3] 51/1 67/1 73/23
10.70 [1] 112/7 10530 [1] 1/24	118/22 119/2 122/6 126/11	A
10598 [1] 7/15	131/2 140/9 140/12 140/17 140/20 145/8 173/13	Aaron [2] 58/16 58/19
1094 [1] 176/11	20th [1] 90/11	ABACA [1] 165/4
1099 [1] 124/7	2239 [1] 65/1	abandon [1] 160/4
10:05 [1] 128/5 10:13 [1] 128/7	2330 [1] 60/19	abandoned [1] 131/6 abatement [3] 119/19 120/11
10:13 [1] 120/7 10s [1] 15/21	2389 [1] 111/20 23rd [5] 67/21 69/22 70/14	120/20
11 [2] 21/13 135/19	71/3 73/11	Abbot's [1] 154/16
111 [1] 1/24	24 [2] 6/3 39/18	ability [3] 87/12 139/8 168/4
11:12 p.m [1] 176/14 12 [1] 17/6	2460 [2] 166/23 172/10	able [6] 18/22 73/8 97/17 105/1 158/2 158/9
12 [1] 1/76 129 [1] 145/17	250 [1] 34/12 28 [1] 6/13	about [100]
13 [2] 5/2 5/11	28 [1] 6/13 288 [1] 54/6	above [3] 94/3 94/18 141/16
132 [5] 25/17 54/7 75/4 76/7	29 [2] 175/16 175/20	absolutely [2] 15/12 127/4
122/11	29th [1] 175/4	absorb [1] 149/13 acceleration [5] 28/8 28/10
1450 [1] 146/8 15 [8] 1/9 128/20 139/23	3	29/18 29/21 35/25
139/23 142/4 143/2 143/7	3-Q-11 [1] 135/19	accept [2] 60/14 119/7
143/13	3-Q-5 [1] 134/7	accepted [3] 5/18 7/8 170/19
1673 [2] 67/3 95/12	3.1 [1] 46/17	access [16] 16/3 16/5 16/8
1682 [1] 158/16 17 [4] 22/10 22/17 22/19 22/21	3.9 [1] 113/3	31/17 31/18 136/4 139/3 139/6 139/15 139/19 140/11 142/14
17 [4] 22/10 22/17 22/19 22/21 1767 [1] 10/23	30 [1] 15/6 3496 [2] 67/2 88/4	143/15 143/21 144/8 144/21
18 million [1] 46/5	35 [6] 14/1 54/7 76/11 94/20	accident [1] 30/13
18.75 acres [1] 14/5	95/6 137/16	accidently [1] 162/10

Proceedings 179 **almost [10]** 14/17 52/12 57/18 118/11 148/23 adequately [3] Α 169/2 59/12 85/8 86/3 95/2 124/7 adjacent [2] 76/3 91/20 adjoining [1] 89/16 accommodate [7] 25/8 35/6 129/22 143/17 37/10 45/1 84/3 105/1 109/14 **alone [3]** 44/3 171/9 171/12 accomplish [1] 4/1 along [16] 17/3 18/25 21/25 adjourn [2] 175/15 175/19 accordance [1] 102/10 **adjusting** [1] 75/24 25/21 40/1 44/18 74/24 75/20 according [9] 67/12 76/5 97/11 admit [2] 39/23 67/7 76/3 100/4 100/21 104/25 101/11 112/23 135/19 136/11 adopted [5] 5/11 5/16 39/17 126/11 140/17 173/1 173/13 140/7 149/18 101/5 102/11 **already [19]** 6/6 9/15 14/5 account [9] 68/12 71/22 72/16 adopting [1] 5/4 14/16 14/19 52/24 53/6 74/11 93/5 94/18 105/5 107/22 adoption [1] 102/7 74/13 96/2 97/20 110/20 108/15 127/3 adults [2] 147/12 155/13 119/10 129/4 143/17 145/23 accounted [1] 127/10 advantage [1] 16/22 157/1 158/5 171/13 accounts [1] 163/18 **alright [13]** 8/21 85/6 99/7 adverse [6] 44/3 44/14 45/4 accrue [2] 46/24 48/22 59/24 96/8 167/18 107/7 107/17 120/9 128/17 accrued [1] 144/22 128/23 146/7 156/6 174/16 advocated [1] 73/11 **accurate [5]** 59/18 59/20 advocating [1] 49/6 175/3 175/18 152/21 168/1 177/8 **affair [1]** 162/22 **also [52]** 4/13 6/8 6/9 6/11 **affect [1]** 161/4 accurately [2] 108/17 150/1 6/14 15/23 16/24 18/24 21/10 77/21 152/25 acknowledges [1] 101/18 affected [2] 22/2 22/11 24/1 26/4 30/15 acre [2] 15/21 114/5 35/9 35/15 49/15 49/20 50/6 affecting [1] 44/6 acres [7] 11/20 14/5 14/8 53/6 55/17 64/20 66/8 73/15 affects [1] 35/22 14/17 14/18 17/24 173/2 76/22 77/5 78/10 78/14 79/4 **afford [1]** 163/13 across [9] 22/4 25/11 27/17 **aforesaid** [1] 177/9 79/25 83/19 83/24 85/14 121/17 121/23 124/19 124/25 **afraid [1]** 67/7 101/12 108/6 120/25 121/25 125/1 127/7 **after [20]** 5/17 9/17 16/5 124/11 127/17 135/8 139/13 Act [1] 3/16 51/15 88/17 89/25 103/12 140/19 141/3 152/13 154/5 156/23 157/9 158/8 158/11 action [5] 3/18 4/10 4/15 103/19 116/11 121/13 131/7 67/15 73/18 142/19 143/3 144/18 149/20 163/9 165/4 169/3 actions [1] 59/6 158/17 162/16 166/22 172/20 **alter [1]** 168/4 active [4] 69/21 69/23 145/5 173/3 **altering** [1] 142/4 afternoon [7] 25/14 25/18 27/4 166/9 **alternatives** [3] 4/14 40/4 actively [2] 27/21 126/9 27/16 31/7 32/8 108/4 40/10 activities [6] 67/16 67/17 again [30] 3/5 9/17 9/18 9/24 **although [5]** 8/2 17/2 71/21 68/9 69/17 70/13 70/24 10/17 19/19 22/19 23/13 27/11 127/8 168/13 actual [2] 48/3 104/11 **altogether** [2] 55/24 160/21 29/11 29/17 30/19 31/15 41/1 51/3 53/7 69/21 73/23 95/11 actually [26] 13/20 27/22 36/2 **always [9]** 79/23 121/4 123/5 36/7 36/22 38/8 38/9 38/14 101/13 107/17 126/5 131/7 123/6 123/6 123/13 131/21 159/7 166/17 53/3 74/11 84/1 90/5 93/7 135/22 143/19 148/3 153/1 98/19 99/21 99/23 100/12 159/6 159/18 170/17 am [102] 103/21 103/22 108/9 108/18 against [4] 55/1 115/2 124/24 **am-pm [1]** 1/9 108/23 120/14 136/8 137/4 167/18 **amazed** [1] 62/7 149/17 ambulance [2] 75/3 81/16 age [1] 96/13 actuary [1] 16/13 agencies [5] 3/17 6/4 14/23 **amenities** [1] 89/22 adage [1] 66/9 15/20 154/8 America [2] 43/14 162/8 agency [5] 3/13 4/7 4/13 68/23 American [1] 38/20 add [6] 47/17 73/9 122/16 129/22 145/16 146/2 144/12 Americans [3] 56/2 130/7 130/7 added [4] 71/6 71/6 97/16 ago [12] 20/13 22/6 32/21 45/8 among [2] 4/16 168/11 97/18 65/20 70/9 70/11 90/11 95/21 **amount [7]** 81/18 106/22 107/5 adding [8] 29/8 35/15 47/17 101/5 125/8 159/14 114/4 136/13 136/17 151/2 75/21 75/23 119/11 129/23 **agree [4]** 49/2 98/10 118/25 ample [2] 16/25 18/24 133/24 130/3 **analysis [11]** 24/25 37/24 addition [18] 5/22 7/6 9/21 agreements [1] 116/16 41/15 42/20 44/15 45/8 59/17 14/25 15/4 17/14 20/7 20/25 59/22 72/7 72/10 104/13 agricultural [1] 112/12 21/9 22/3 55/2 72/6 72/19 analyze [2] 40/3 41/4 ahead [6] 10/21 26/4 29/12 83/13 90/5 115/8 136/19 158/8 30/21 33/7 137/9 analyzed [5] 40/9 42/24 43/1 additional [24] 29/8 31/5 45/1 aid [1] 118/16 43/13 43/18 46/18 47/23 72/2 72/17 77/9 air [4] 23/10 23/11 72/22 analyzing [1] 39/7 79/8 79/13 81/20 81/21 81/24 139/14 and it [1] 127/9 82/15 82/24 83/1 83/4 83/8 **Al [1]** 10/23 and/or [4] 78/10 82/21 95/17 83/9 84/16 86/14 86/15 138/11 Alan [2] 131/13 131/14 152/6 142/21 **alcohol [4]** 147/5 154/24 155/4 Andrew [1] 115/19 additionally [2] 16/11 136/5 155/9 Angeles [1] 163/24 address [11] 9/11 58/20 59/10 all [113] **ANN [2]** 2/11 3/1 60/16 60/23 95/11 98/9 99/11 **allow [6]** 86/25 100/16 100/20 announce [1] 66/22 107/16 116/1 144/7 127/18 152/21 152/23 **annual [6]** 46/11 47/13 82/10 addressed [4] 5/10 8/7 67/16 **allowable [1]** 92/17 98/14 134/10 135/21 allowed [5] 39/11 39/12 95/22 annually [1] 78/8 74/13 addresses [2] 4/16 5/15 **another [16]** 46/10 47/7 49/23 95/25 119/21 adequate [5] 5/19 84/20 139/3 **allowing [3]** 89/18 94/22 96/1 61/5 63/20 64/15 80/15 104/13 143/12 144/3 **allows [3]** 22/25 139/7 139/18 105/13 122/16 122/18 125/22

46/7 46/12 46/20 47/12 50/22 **assured** [1] 10/6 Α 51/4 82/9 134/9 134/10 134/13 **asthmatic** [1] 98/5 **another... [4]** 146/8 150/12 134/15 136/25 140/10 140/12 asthmatics [1] 98/5 154/14 164/14 approximates [1] 42/6 **atmosphere** [2] 52/7 98/11 answer [6] 3/19 7/18 7/23 Architecture [2] 88/7 92/14 attached [3] 77/25 79/20 85/14 68/22 73/5 121/5 **attachment** [1] 102/4 are [303] **answered** [1] 5/1 12/3 14/8 14/11 attention [2] 54/8 87/16 area [84] Anthony [1] 111/19 14/17 14/18 15/10 15/22 16/2 Attic [1] 152/14 **anxious [1]** 165/12 16/12 16/15 16/23 17/5 17/11 **attorney** [2] 120/16 167/11 any [37] 4/4 4/8 7/12 7/18 8/1 **attorneys [1]** 168/9 17/14 17/17 18/4 18/16 18/18 9/12 17/17 21/5 32/25 34/11 18/24 18/25 20/8 22/12 23/15 **attract [1]** 75/17 36/4 45/4 50/20 50/21 51/11 24/12 25/5 25/20 25/24 27/10 attractiveness [1] 98/25 51/23 52/1 52/4 54/13 55/4 28/15 28/16 28/21 28/22 29/7 **authentic** [1] 87/1 **auto [7]** 90/7 100/23 101/2 55/5 66/3 70/24 76/20 79/11 32/11 35/12 35/13 35/22 39/21 81/23 83/13 86/20 104/6 105/5 41/5 41/7 41/10 41/13 41/14 101/8 101/14 148/5 154/4 120/17 120/22 122/2 145/20 41/19 41/25 42/4 42/8 49/20 automobile [3] 139/12 142/17 150/5 155/7 175/23 52/24 53/11 63/22 64/1 66/4 144/15 **anybody [4]** 61/17 73/15 164/22 78/24 79/10 79/13 80/12 80/22 **available [9]** 6/5 16/6 68/4 82/12 83/6 147/20 150/22 175/12 81/22 81/25 82/24 83/25 84/21 175/4 175/11 anybody's [1] 87/24 85/3 86/8 91/15 91/21 95/22 anymore [5] 33/7 121/22 126/6 96/2 99/25 101/23 124/15 Avenue [11] 1/24 31/2 32/24 132/7 160/13 35/16 67/3 80/5 88/4 121/17 148/21 150/17 157/24 160/23 **anyone [2]** 36/25 49/12 160/25 161/16 172/14 173/19 121/20 159/16 162/7 **anything** [9] 11/15 36/14 145/9 174/2 174/3 174/13 174/15 average [7] 51/25 52/2 114/8 153/13 166/13 169/12 169/14 areas [19] 14/9 18/1 18/2 20/5 130/3 134/12 135/14 161/4 171/21 176/11 26/7 26/18 30/9 41/6 43/5 avoid [2] 9/12 96/8 anyway [2] 106/21 128/24 43/10 45/6 62/1 72/20 76/23 award [2] 13/23 13/24 anywhere [6] 21/13 64/14 105/8 149/13 151/12 161/8 168/8 **aware [9]** 8/19 24/20 90/18 152/1 152/7 153/23 168/18 90/19 119/15 124/23 131/23 **apologies** [1] 158/22 aren't [2] 137/13 151/25 146/1 176/12 **apologize [1]** 52/13 **argued** [1] 94/10 away [3] 86/7 125/25 147/4 **appalled** [1] 116/9 **argument [3]** 92/9 133/6 153/18 Aye [1] 175/22 **apparel [1]** 147/12 **arithmetic** [1] 70/10 В **apparent** [1] 157/3 Arizona [2] 96/14 96/17 apparently [2] 94/11 168/10 Babette [1] 132/12 **around [14]** 32/6 62/20 64/13 **appear [3]** 34/17 149/5 167/10 77/19 82/20 99/25 118/11 Bachelor's [1] 88/6 appearances [1] 78/12 119/1 119/14 120/7 124/16 back [23] 4/3 17/12 28/4 30/22 **appeared** [1] 61/1 38/13 48/24 81/7 91/2 99/25 132/16 158/22 161/6 appears [6] 102/12 102/13 arrangements [1] 148/10 109/17 118/4 120/13 120/14 142/19 150/6 151/1 167/6 120/18 125/17 125/21 137/13 arrest [1] 78/11 143/6 143/7 144/14 159/3 appendix [4] 41/3 77/22 79/19 arrive [3] 90/1 142/25 143/25 162/17 163/12 155/1 **arrived** [2] 133/5 133/10 appliances [2] 147/7 159/25 arterials [1] 100/21 backed [3] 25/16 25/16 31/7 **applicant [33]** 1/5 5/5 5/12 artery [2] 77/5 86/19 **background** [1] 87/19 7/18 10/10 10/22 24/8 33/10 as [153] backs [1] 121/5 37/3 37/8 45/4 48/25 89/12 bad [4] 63/22 158/24 170/22 **ascertain [1]** 104/11 92/2 92/6 93/4 94/2 108/21 170/24 **aside [3]** 62/3 76/5 96/4 109/15 118/9 132/24 133/9 **ask [13]** 4/20 7/21 8/18 8/23 badly [1] 86/24 135/1 135/8 136/18 150/21 baked [1] 87/23 9/5 9/10 9/16 12/6 55/8 64/15 152/18 155/3 155/23 156/15 99/3 106/17 164/5 bakeries [1] 153/21 167/19 167/20 167/21 bakery [2] 147/3 153/22 **asked [3]** 70/24 122/13 163/23 **applicant's [8]** 5/22 10/12 **asking [3]** 22/16 72/25 132/24 balance [4] 112/17 115/3 115/3 89/7 90/20 141/20 149/11 **asks [2]** 69/19 164/6 167/16 150/15 156/11 **balancing [1]** 167/17 **aspect** [3] 54/22 105/13 168/4 applicants [2] 133/21 135/24 **assaults [1]** 97/20 Ballinger [1] 132/13 application [8] 3/8 3/11 11/4 band [2] 97/23 118/16 assessment [6] 42/16 42/17 59/7 102/17 144/10 175/25 banker [1] 165/18 59/20 70/4 152/19 152/22 176/13 Baptist [1] 145/14 assessor [1] 112/14 applications [2] 69/21 69/23 assign [1] 92/11 Barbette [2] 115/20 131/15 **applying** [1] 39/14 Barbieri [4] 79/17 79/25 80/20 assignment [1] 38/1 **appointed** [1] 117/8 assist [1] 168/8 82/18 **appreciate** [1] 172/5 Barn [2] 25/17 157/15 assistance [1] 168/7 approach [1] 35/17 **base [6]** 60/1 60/2 64/11 92/8 **associated** [2] 105/14 139/11 ASSOCIATES [4] 1/23 12/22 105/12 105/12 **approached** [1] 173/22 appropriate [2] 103/6 150/19 37/16 99/20 based [8] 31/11 37/18 44/15 approvals [1] 39/15 103/15 108/24 113/4 135/17 association [4] 56/10 56/19 **approve** [1] 94/25 145/4 145/6 171/25 approved [3] 65/25 77/6 127/6 basically [7] 3/18 32/9 41/13 association's [1] 146/3 43/15 44/10 47/5 51/22 **approving** [1] 127/12 **assume [1]** 78/18 **approximate** [1] 125/19 assuming [2] 83/1 91/24 basin [1] 20/23 approximately [16] 41/18 46/2 assure [1] 77/12 **basinets [1]** 148/12

Proceedings

R basis [4] 31/23 42/13 43/25 137/22 Baskin [1] 154/15 Bath [2] 62/17 124/20 Battle [1] 173/15 be [226] 64/7 64/11 Beach [2] Bear [13] 9/7 26/19 27/12 28/2 28/9 29/17 30/10 36/7 39/20 91/14 99/25 102/1 122/6 beautiful [4] 19/13 111/1 111/3 111/4 became [2] 44/8 164/25 because [52] 12/1 13/21 19/10 20/10 21/20 25/5 27/18 32/19 42/13 43/14 53/14 60/7 61/6 62/12 64/18 71/16 72/9 72/15 74/12 86/17 86/19 91/22 104/23 106/24 107/21 111/4 118/4 120/20 121/22 124/2 125/25 128/17 131/3 132/3 139/7 147/15 147/21 159/5 162/14 162/19 164/1 164/13 165/8 165/13 168/2 168/20 170/10 170/12 170/13 170/17 174/13 175/13 become [4] 22/21 44/9 130/8 167/12 becomes [1] 150/11 Bed [2] 62/17 124/20 Bedford [4] 76/17 76/24 137/19 166/24 Bee [1] 139/23 been [66] 9/15 13/25 24/18 26/7 26/18 27/8 27/21 30/1 34/4 34/5 37/19 45/13 50/16 51/6 52/11 52/20 54/11 55/16 58/25 60/21 61/2 61/9 83/6 95/17 95/21 97/9 99/16 99/23 103/9 108/2 110/15 110/17 110/19 110/23 111/21 117/4 117/5 118/23 118/24 119/12 127/8 129/4 129/6 131/3 131/19 132/13 145/6 151/15 156/21 156/23 158/5 160/5 160/7 160/20 160/21 161/15 162/24 168/6 168/13 168/20 169/11 169/12 169/22 170/4 171/13 172/12 beer [1] 155/4 before [16] 22/6 23/3 33/21 35/2 61/5 66/11 72/3 72/4 87/22 98/7 100/13 121/14 158/5 167/15 173/16 175/11 began [1] 75/14 beginning [1] 31/4 behalf [2] 54/4 167/10 behavior [1] 136/22 behind [2] 17/11 161/17 being [26] 10/14 24/13 25/4 25/7 26/13 28/24 30/13 32/16 41/22 41/23 42/7 45/11 45/25 46/13 62/21 65/8 70/24 103/13 117/2 120/20 138/1 138/8 151/7 151/18 167/3 168/5 believe [15] 5/15 59/17 59/19 61/15 65/7 68/10 105/11 107/19 108/1 108/6 108/17 108/19 109/19 114/22 169/7

believing [1] 66/9 bellow [1] 137/5 belong [2] 9/8 146/5 **below [1]** 16/10 Ben [1] 174/19 **beneficial [1]** 110/12 benefit [4] 51/1 53/12 94/8 133/12benefits [7] 32/3 37/13 50/6 51/2 60/8 124/8 129/21 **best [9]** 31/25 50/18 61/11 120/15 124/18 125/22 152/4 160/24 169/21 Beth [2] 15/19 19/1 **better [9]** 4/5 50/4 65/5 76/5 118/8 119/9 158/9 158/12 166/18 **betterment** [1] 55/24 between [13] 17/21 28/21 31/21 33/18 33/25 34/12 41/10 45/9 139/24 140/2 143/14 162/12 173/14 Beverage [1] 164/3 beverages [2] 155/6 155/7 beyond [4] 62/17 118/18 118/19 124/20 **bicycle** [1] 84/3 **bid** [2] 27/23 29/13 big [20] 49/7 50/17 50/17 52/3 61/5 62/20 63/21 90/4 96/18 96/22 119/15 125/6 132/15 132/16 149/20 162/25 163/2 163/14 163/18 165/8 bigger [2] 157/19 176/5 biggest [2] 133/25 137/22 **bike [2]** 84/12 96/4 Bill [4] 131/16 138/20 146/11 158/17 billion [2] 42/6 98/4 billions [1] 57/22 birthday [1] 153/23 bit [7] 26/2 41/24 42/5 61/22 64/2 140/18 157/13 **BJ's [1]** 26/22 **BJs [20]** 36/16 36/18 59/1 59/13 61/16 61/18 62/8 62/16 64/19 64/22 65/10 117/25 124/14 126/2 132/6 156/4 158/3 158/11 161/10 173/2 blah [3] 91/21 91/21 91/21 **blame [1]** 159/21 blight [11] 43/20 45/5 61/14 138/10 150/13 153/4 156/14 170/8 171/11 171/19 171/21 blighted [2] 44/8 44/9 blighting [2] 44/20 169/23 blood [2] 60/10 87/24 **blow [2]** 64/20 159/6 **blue [1]** 160/11 **blueprint** [1] 56/20 blurry [1] 99/12 board [74] 1/2 2/4 2/5 2/6 2/7 2/8 2/8 3/8 3/13 3/19 5/3 5/13 5/18 5/23 6/2 6/19 7/17 7/25 10/4 13/7 22/6 22/16 23/22 55/19 56/25 58/11 58/19 58/23 60/13 62/13 65/18 65/22 65/24 67/9 68/5 68/15 70/7 70/12 72/4 72/5 73/7 74/16 82/22 87/25 90/13 90/17 92/3 95/14 99/4 99/4 99/14 102/18

102/21 102/25 103/2 107/16 111/24 111/25 115/15 116/12 117/12 119/9 119/15 120/25 141/3 142/14 142/21 143/1 143/6 143/12 144/10 144/12 145/25 165/7 board's [2] 2/10 59/6 boards [1] 129/6 Bock [2] 58/16 58/19 bold [1] 78/1 Bollinger [3] 115/21 131/16 132/11 boo [2] 85/5 85/5 books [1] 127/9 boom [2] 124/20 124/22 border [2] 116/18 116/19 borrow [1] 146/16 **both** [19] 26/4 26/11 28/14 46/23 48/5 56/25 59/2 64/3 65/10 69/8 70/19 72/11 75/21 79/22 82/17 92/9 124/15 130/11 167/14 bottle [7] 25/19 27/19 28/12 30/23 34/8 35/7 36/20 **bottleneck** [1] 137/14 bottom [3] 25/3 51/20 89/21 bought [1] 163/14 Boulevard [14] 29/3 31/4 31/14 75/23 76/9 80/6 83/22 84/4 84/14 115/11 118/19 140/10 141/1 143/3 **box [11]** 50/17 50/17 51/19 52/3 61/6 62/6 90/4 96/18 96/23 132/17 149/20 boxes [2] 49/7 62/20 **Boy** [1] 158/24 brainer [1] 115/1 Brann [4] 12/24 50/1 50/10 134/16 Bravo [1] 111/9 Bray [3] 67/2 87/21 88/4 break [4] 10/16 66/11 66/15 128/2 breakdown [2] 133/5 133/10 breaking [1] 47/14 breathing [1] 98/2 Breslin [8] 13/19 13/22 24/8 24/20 75/16 166/10 166/13 166/16 Brewster [1] 76/18 bridge [2] 64/10 137/19 brief [11] 10/9 53/14 66/3 66/15 66/17 128/4 128/25 138/17 157/12 167/3 168/19 bring [19] 13/13 14/2 56/21 57/7 57/8 62/15 67/20 75/8 76/14 81/9 87/16 97/19 129/13 133/7 141/18 147/23 148/22 157/23 161/19 bringing [2] 35/4 134/4 brings [1] 60/8 brokers [1] 120/6 Brook [3] 118/19 138/23 173/15 Brookfield [2] 161/8 161/20 Brooklyn [1] 62/24 brought [3] 9/15 52/20 56/3 brush [1] 167/22 Buchanan [1] 86/8 budget [2] 113/14 113/17 Buehl [4] 131/16 144/25 145/3 146/20

182

В	Ī
buffer [3] 18/15 18/18 18/25	1
buffering [4] 18/14 19/7 19/8	I
19/10	I
buffers [1] 91/19	I
build [12] 33/1 36/13 57/24	I
95/25 101/22 104/13 105/2 121/14 124/25 127/9 130/2	I
	I
162/7	I
Builder [1] 13/23	I
building [23] 16/19 17/2 17/11	I
18/22 32/10 50/8 57/19 57/24	I
65/23 65/25 88/8 88/11 90/15 92/12 92/13 92/16 92/20	I
	I
104/20 117/15 123/23 140/13	I
142/7 145/7	
buildings [5] 15/1 18/8 18/19	
18/21 104/21	
built [10] 33/8 75/16 76/4 103/20 121/14 121/15 125/8	
140/15 142/10 173/8 burdened [3] 78/23 80/11 81/4	ļ
burn [1] 159/4	
bus [24] 32/5 32/8 84/14 122/8	
122/17 139/23 139/23 140/8	
140/15 140/25 141/18 141/20	
141/23 142/5 142/6 142/9	
143/2 143/3 143/4 143/6	
143/11 143/13 143/20 144/7	
buses [5] 121/11 122/4 122/11	I
142/8 143/14	
business [33] 33/12 37/19	I
44/10 52/11 52/19 56/8 56/22	I
58/20 59/4 59/9 98/10 98/11	I
100/22 112/18 112/21 113/23	I
114/18 125/9 147/17 150/5	I
154/13 154/14 156/23 156/24	I
158/2 158/6 158/14 161/12	I
161/14 161/15 164/14 165/8	I
174/4	I
businesses [17] 19/11 52/20	
53/1 64/6 74/25 77/4 138/9	
150/3 151/25 152/20 154/7	
156/13 156/17 158/10 158/10	
160/5 167/14	
busy [2] 3/10 63/22 buy [7] 57/13 96/20 96/21	
124/18 148/8 148/8 160/1	
buyers [1] 165/20	-
C	
C-3 [11] 11/19 39/12 40/16	
89/9 89/9 91/18 100/15 100/15	
100/18 101/3 101/11	
cable [1] 21/19	
Cablevision [1] 33/9	
cakes [1] 153/23	
calculations [2] 93/6 94/15	
call [12] 13/4 22/5 41/25 43/5	
45/14 52/6 56/20 90/6 103/3	
121/20 166/9 172/3	ļ
called [9] 8/10 26/9 42/15	
43/9 43/19 113/14 120/4 132/1	l
164/3	
calls [2] 101/21 121/16	ļ
came [12] 22/6 60/24 65/21	
101/16 110/24 112/13 116/10	
124/17 124/21 172/22 173/1	
173/6	ļ
can [82] 6/7 7/12 8/4 14/7	
	Í
	ļ

15/11 18/20 19/3 19/4 19/13 21/11 22/18 29/19 30/3 35/11 42/10 43/13 50/3 50/5 52/24 55/21 55/23 55/24 56/4 57/12 57/12 60/4 62/8 64/17 66/13 66/15 66/23 71/15 74/4 74/5 74/24 78/16 78/18 79/14 82/1 84/17 84/19 87/19 93/11 94/10 97/16 98/4 98/19 106/8 106/12 106/17 107/16 109/18 109/22 109/25 112/14 113/22 115/25 119/4 120/15 125/11 126/6 127/21 127/23 128/12 129/22 130/13 130/19 136/7 138/14 139/1 139/15 146/9 146/15 146/18 148/8 150/10 154/5 158/10 160/24 163/11 163/12 174/21 can't [18] 4/2 4/4 69/1 85/12 111/16 117/20 117/22 117/23 117/25 118/3 121/16 121/22 124/15 129/9 132/5 146/8 160/10 175/1 Canada [1] 52/15 canalize [1] 138/2 cannot [5] 83/2 85/20 107/18 131/9 159/20 capacity [1] 28/15 Capellini [2] 10/23 39/9 Captain [5] 79/17 79/17 79/25 80/19 82/18 84/17 118/2 **CARBONE** [1] 1/23 card [3] 93/9 95/18 150/7 cards [2] 163/20 164/18 care [13] 22/13 28/13 30/24 34/7 87/9 96/4 107/11 110/15 110/17 123/19 147/9 148/1 166/5 carefully [2] 8/3 142/18 cares [1] 65/19 Carolina [1] 120/7 Caroline [1] 152/11 carries [1] 175/24 carry [2] 35/19 98/8 carrying [1] 141/23 cars [10] 34/23 66/4 71/13 75/18 78/8 118/7 124/1 139/8 142/16 145/17 cart [1] 51/18 Carvel [1] 154/17 87/24 137/23 176/6 **cash [1]** 123/20 **casket [1]** 148/9 cast [1] 156/10 categories [6] 147/2 147/15 147/19 150/23 151/22 154/24 category [6] 150/9 150/16 150/20 150/25 153/5 155/14 cause [3] 78/7 138/10 156/13 **caused [1]** 86/15 causing [2] 45/5 141/20 CBA [1] 102/18 census [2] 113/5 149/18 center [35] 33/4 43/25 44/7 44/12 62/17 63/7 63/8 65/11 65/16 65/21 66/1 75/6 75/22 81/11 81/17 84/22 89/19 90/6 91/15 93/5 96/19 97/4 102/1

116/10 117/24 121/13 123/7 124/6 142/8 143/20 150/14 156/3 156/4 171/12 174/7 centered [1] 12/6 100/22 173/6 centers [2] **Centone [2]** 158/18 166/21 **Central [1]** 1/24 cents [1] 111/5 **century [1]** 160/14 ceremonies [1] 67/23 certain [11] 40/1 45/12 75/7 96/13 108/15 126/5 130/19 151/16 151/22 151/25 167/21 certainly [8] 42/10 45/11 48/19 48/19 49/8 103/1 157/11 165/24 certificate [1] 92/22 Certified [2] 38/20 177/8 **chairman** [8] 2/3 58/23 99/14 115/23 117/6 171/1 174/23 176/2 chamber [14] 20/24 55/17 56/13 56/14 56/15 56/16 56/16 57/4 58/24 59/2 59/11 60/5 60/11 60/13 Chambers [1] 60/2 **chance [4]** 6/7 9/17 74/9 171/10 change [8] 30/4 30/18 47/15 90/24 114/5 115/24 138/14 155/24 car [6] 27/1 31/20 44/19 57/11 changed [3] 24/16 25/5 164/11 changes [3] 26/3 88/21 176/11 **changing [1]** 75/12 **chap [1]** 13/2 **Chappaqua** [1] 76/24 42/15 42/17 55/9 character [6] 59/20 59/25 152/19 charitable [1] 135/21 Charles [3] 99/9 110/6 110/8 **chase [1]** 91/24 **cheap [1]** 126/19 cheaper [1] 132/3 **check** [2] 96/5 120/15 cherrypicked [1] 150/4 Chester [5] 39/3 49/16 56/13 136/1 147/22 **Chester/Rye** [1] 56/13 Chicago [1] 163/24 chided [1] 88/17 chief [7] 77/22 77/23 78/4 78/14 79/7 82/17 86/19 **case [7]** 24/8 64/18 65/17 86/9 **child [3]** 47/18 88/17 114/12 **child's [1]** 85/10 children [9] 85/15 85/17 85/19 98/6 114/9 114/10 114/13 147/13 155/13 **choice [4]** 114/22 117/16 117/17 161/1 **choices** [1] 27/5 **choose** [2] 114/24 144/21 **chosen** [1] 167/13 Chris [1] 163/20 **church [9]** 54/5 54/10 54/15 54/21 54/24 55/4 55/6 55/10 145/14 **church's** [1] 55/8 circle [3] 41/9 41/11 65/1 **Circuit [3]** 62/18 124/17 124/20 **circulate [1]** 17/16

С circulated [2] 4/15 6/4 circumstances [1] 73/16 cited [1] 156/1 citing [1] 126/12 citizen [1] 95/20 citizens [4] 87/7 99/17 100/3 136/6 city [5] 20/1 62/18 124/17 162/18 164/16 civil [2] 6/24 66/13 **civility** [1] 9/3 **claim [2]** 52/25 92/10 **claims** [2] 133/13 150/21 **clarify** [3] 155/3 155/23 169/2 **classifies** [1] 94/11 **clean [1]** 36/21 **cleaning [1]** 28/14 clear [8] 50/14 78/19 78/24 80/13 82/16 92/16 128/10 171/2**clearance** [1] 84/21 clearly [2] 10/18 42/8 **clerk** [1] 51/13 **client [1]** 21/2 **clients [1]** 99/21 **close** [7] 7/9 10/1 48/7 70/16 75/4 142/7 142/10 closed [3] 61/16 62/18 62/19 **closely** [2] 8/5 50/3 **closer [2]** 34/16 141/18 **closes** [1] 64/22 **closest** [2] 17/13 81/10 **closing** [1] 64/20 closure [1] 150/12 clothes [1] 96/20 155/12 clothing [1] 61/11 62/5 64/8 64/12 club [4] **clubs [1]** 149/22 co [8] 11/1 61/20 62/11 62/24 97/19 98/1 98/3 112/8 co-exist [3] 61/20 62/11 62/24 co-ops [1] 112/8 **coach [1]** 151/6 Coco [1] 75/16 code [7] 88/8 92/13 92/16 100/16 102/12 102/13 102/23 codes [2] 52/23 88/11 coexist [1] 64/17 coffin [1] 148/9 coffins [1] 148/12 **cold [1]** 160/1 Coldwell [1] 165/18 collar [1] 160/11 collect [2] 57/16 119/21 collected [2] 112/4 113/15 Collins [3] 12/17 23/21 72/11 colonial [1] 163/14 column [1] 165/1 **columnist** [1] 164/25 combine [2] 20/25 21/2 come [41] 4/22 7/4 7/21 11/17 13/18 17/12 18/8 19/2 24/9 27/6 27/6 33/13 48/17 52/7 54/8 57/23 83/16 85/24 87/2 93/19 99/10 106/12 111/7 112/22 113/7 114/2 114/19 117/15 117/16 119/1 125/21 133/18 134/22 136/12 140/25 151/6 155/20 157/4 159/21

160/13 170/1 comes [8] 48/16 85/17 92/16 118/21 134/14 149/21 166/19 173/14 coming [24] 26/4 28/9 35/16 38/12 71/14 117/22 117/24 117/25 118/2 120/13 120/14 120/18 123/23 133/24 137/13 141/19 160/23 163/5 169/4 169/9 169/13 169/21 170/12 173/12 comment [9] 4/20 4/23 4/24 6/16 10/2 10/6 121/3 138/24 154/9 comments [37] 4/18 6/20 7/5 7/8 7/12 8/5 8/6 9/12 9/13 9/14 9/19 9/21 9/24 10/5 10/8 10/13 10/17 11/5 11/11 61/13 65/7 66/12 90/13 90/19 102/3 107/1 107/2 107/8 109/21 122/14 128/11 139/2 140/19 167/24 170/9 170/19 174/17 Commerce [11] 1/8 7/14 55/17 56/14 56/15 57/4 58/25 59/12 60/3 60/12 76/20 commercial [14] 11/21 42/15 42/16 59/19 60/1 60/2 91/19 100/21 112/7 112/11 114/23 114/24 122/25 152/19 commissioner [1] 176/10 Committee [2] 117/6 117/11 common [4] 65/14 69/4 70/25 72/20 communities [6] 51/8 92/10 112/25 129/20 130/24 139/19 community [27] 12/16 12/24 53/7 53/8 53/13 54/22 59/10 59/15 60/11 77/4 82/6 111/23 113/4 115/4 120/13 120/14 132/21 138/11 157/8 160/16 164/24 167/12 168/5 168/15 169/23 171/11 173/8 commutation [1] 108/7 commute [1] 116/8 companies [1] 64/3 company [10] 13/19 14/13 50/20 57/20 57/21 72/10 111/7 119/24 119/25 149/8 comparable [3] 63/14 63/25 135/9compete [3] 43/16 124/22 151/19 competence [1] 151/21 **competent** [1] 5/24 competing [2] 124/12 124/24 competition [7] 43/12 43/14 43/16 126/3 130/23 153/2 171/18 competitive [1] 126/3 **competitor** [1] 125/4 compiled [1] 11/14 complained [1] 65/22 complete [6] 59/19 59/21 60/14 148/13 149/3 156/16 completed [2] 29/14 39/1 completion [1] 60/15 complex [1] 16/24 compliance [1] 89/7 compliant [3] 4/11 90/22 91/25 complication [1] 84/7 comply [1] 91/12

component [1] 135/14 components [7] 28/7 30/17 38/2 38/4 38/5 38/6 39/8 comprehensive [31] 12/3 12/7 37/21 38/22 38/25 39/1 39/4 39/16 39/18 39/24 40/14 42/22 89/3 89/13 89/14 90/23 91/6 91/17 100/4 100/17 101/4 101/11 101/14 101/18 101/24 101/25 102/5 102/8 102/10 102/15 169/6 con [1] 8/1 concentrations [1] 43/22 **concept** [1] 101/24 **concern [4]** 61/12 124/11 145/12 146/3 concerned [5] 68/24 116/6 128/13 131/1 145/7 concerning [3] 3/18 4/21 168/18 concerns [4] 36/18 60/24 60/25 168/2 conclude [2] 73/14 95/8 **concluded** [1] 41/15 concludes [2] 49/24 64/22 concluding [1] 109/21 conclusion [4] 86/17 90/1 149/11 156/11 conclusions [1] 136/18 concurrence [1] 69/11 concurrently [1] 70/15 condition [4] 15/16 18/7 44/13 165/23conditions [12] 14/21 14/23 14/25 18/9 20/5 35/23 75/8 75/12 104/9 104/9 105/3 105/12condos [1] 112/8 conduct [1] 167/14 conducted [1] 5/7 conducting [1] 66/3 conference [2] 164/2 164/4 confines [1] 145/22 confirmed [2] 15/20 88/19 **conform** [1] 98/22 conformance [2] 102/13 102/14 confusing [1] 153/5 confusion [1] 45/19 161/8 congested [1] congregation [1] 54/15 congruent [1] 77/11 conjunction [1] 100/5 **Connecticut** [4] 53/5 76/15 136/2 161/9 connection [2] 38/7 38/17 cons [1] 159/9 conscious [1] 126/20 54/16 consented [1] Conservation [1] 111/25 **conservative** [1] 45/15 conserves [1] 139/10 consider [6] 4/14 9/10 19/25 52/18 154/13 165/14 consideration [3] 68/10 86/20 99/6 considered [12] 4/7 70/25 142/18 149/6 150/18 152/10 154/2 154/15 154/17 155/2 155/19 156/3 considering [1] 73/17 considers [1] 144/15

С consistent [3] 89/13 126/10 144/11 consisting [1] 59/13 consists [1] 10/4 constituents [1] 142/15 constructed [3] 20/12 46/9 47/12 construction [15] 11/1 46/1 46/3 46/6 46/8 46/18 57/5 75/20 88/22 130/11 132/25 133/14 133/16 134/2 134/6 consultant [7] 14/22 68/3 73/10 88/9 90/16 92/14 170/17 consultants [4] 5/14 5/23 11/8 124/7 **consulting** [1] 37/18 consumed [2] 147/5 154/25 consumer [3] 13/16 136/22 149/13 contact [1] 148/2 contained [2] 59/18 96/17 **context** [1] 28/13 continue [10] 29/3 29/10 79/15 82/1 82/23 87/8 87/11 88/13 140/20 167/8 **continues** [1] 142/6 continuing [1] 128/9 continuously [1] 52/6 **contract** [1] 11/2 contradictions [2] 155/24 156/10 contradictory [1] 154/9 contrary [2] 73/18 91/9 contrasts [1] 143/19 **contributed** [1] 121/25 contributing [2] 43/23 165/3 contribution [1] 55/20 contributions [1] 122/2 control [6] 15/10 15/13 15/22 21/9 32/1 130/22 conveyed [1] 151/16 **convince** [1] 143/8 Cooper [3] 88/7 92/15 122/7 coordinated [1] 31/13 copies [4] 110/2 116/16 116/23 116/25 **copy [2]** 109/25 156/20 corner [5] 15/25 26/25 28/3 54/6 96/14 corp [1] 75/3 corporate [1] 120/1 corporation [4] 69/9 69/25 70/6 119/16 corporations [3] 88/15 88/20 120/3 correct [3] 73/24 93/1 167/7 **correctly** [1] 70/10 corridor [37] 25/13 25/22 26/11 30/18 32/4 36/16 49/13 59/3 63/21 68/8 68/9 68/13 69/14 69/18 70/21 73/3 73/13 77/14 77/17 79/3 79/10 80/17 81/22 86/16 86/23 87/3 87/7 94/19 103/9 104/16 109/3 110/13 126/11 137/12 137/16 145/23 174/6 corridors [1] 137/6 Cortlandt [28] 26/12 27/4 27/18 36/3 65/1 65/11 65/16

Proceedings 65/17 65/19 65/21 65/25 86/8 97/3 100/7 116/3 116/4 116/10 116/20 117/2 117/6 117/24 121/13 122/1 124/5 142/8 143/19 159/12 159/16 cost [7] 114/12 122/16 122/17 129/24 130/17 130/22 130/23 COSTCO [230] Costco's [11] 12/25 31/25 52/18 65/4 76/12 82/19 96/3 127/15 148/17 154/23 160/25 Costcos [1] 126/2 Costcos' [1] 62/9 costs [1] 121/8 could [14] 8/23 17/19 40/25 66/6 70/9 82/11 105/7 127/9 134/22 142/3 149/13 152/25 163/15 165/3 couldn't [5] 32/25 33/6 96/20 149/2 163/13 Council [1] 56/9 counsel [3] 2/10 10/25 170/14 **counted** [1] 45/10 counting [1] 123/25 countries [1] 52/14 country [1] 50/19 county [30] 22/18 22/20 22/22 38/24 41/12 47/8 47/19 47/24 48/8 48/12 56/10 56/19 56/22 61/7 63/8 63/9 63/10 91/7 94/11 100/5 101/16 113/2 113/6 113/10 113/15 115/6 117/11 119/18 120/23 137/2 couple [9] 60/23 61/13 69/3 70/15 89/6 107/8 116/14 120/24 124/10 course [8] 9/4 25/22 26/21 42/20 42/23 58/5 58/7 167/20 court [6] 28/1 29/23 78/12 87/17 131/15 153/11 courtesy [2] 96/18 116/24 cover [2] 79/13 81/25 coverage [4] 78/23 80/12 81/22 82/24 covered [1] 110/20 covers [1] 37/20 **create [11]** 46/10 46/15 78/12 79/1 80/15 90/3 120/10 126/12 133/14 134/9 140/24 created [4] 46/4 52/22 84/3 142/6 creates [2] 52/6 153/13 Creations [1] 152/9 **credit** [1] 36/4 criteria [2] 20/19 44/21 critical [2] 6/22 85/1 Crompond [12] 21/25 26/23 28/23 29/4 42/23 54/6 69/24 75/13 91/14 152/11 166/22 173/22 Crompound [7] 12/4 12/10 16/6 16/7 16/8 17/22 21/22 **cross [1]** 28/6 **crossed** [1] 74/12 Crossing [1] 69/24 Crossings [2] 75/13 173/23 crosswalks [1] 32/11 **Croton [1]** 80/5 crux [2] 70/22 97/19 **CST [1]** 152/9 culinary [2] 162/8 163/1

cumulative [1] 77/16 curb [2] 107/1 107/2 current [8] 28/24 30/25 39/11 88/20 93/14 130/17 138/3 152/24 currently [10] 20/3 39/3 39/11 47/2 48/15 49/10 131/6 138/8 151/7 155/10 **Custard [1]** 154/17 custom [2] 152/9 152/13 customer [2] 65/6 143/16 customers [6] 60/9 60/9 76/22 119/22 142/24 143/25 cut [4] 90/10 91/24 120/8 146/14 cuts [1] 160/1 **cutter [1]** 51/19 **D'Amico [1]** 146/10 daily [2] 31/22 97/20 damage [1] 97/21 Danbury [5] 49/14 49/21 132/2 147/22 161/20 dangerous [3] 32/7 118/7 145/16 Daniel [2] 77/23 82/17 dark [1] 159/5 darker [1] 18/1 DARLENE [1] 2/7 data [4] 105/24 151/21 155/9 156/8 date [6] 20/17 26/14 73/11 113/18 155/8 175/9 **dated [1]** 70/8 **DAVE [1]** 2/8 David [2] 60/18 60/21 day [8] 17/23 35/3 44/11 52/19 75/7 104/19 105/10 172/4 daycare [1] 116/9 days [7] 7/9 45/25 113/10 118/4 143/21 168/16 168/16 deal [4] 73/8 77/15 120/8 145/11 dealers [2] 27/1 118/2 dealerships [1] 44/19 dealing [1] 59/7 deals [1] 119/19 **Dear [1]** 74/16 **debate [1]** 7/19 debris [4] 15/6 15/7 18/10 19/20 **DEC [9]** 20/18 67/13 68/19 68/22 69/2 69/19 70/24 73/14 73/15 decades [3] 67/7 95/21 131/4 decay [1] 97/24 decaying [1] 97/22 Deccicos [3] 151/8 152/1 157/17 **December** [5] 5/11 27/23 29/13 101/19 109/11 **December 13 [1]** 5/11 decent [1] 49/11 decide [1] 55/10 decided [4] 27/3 32/22 120/1 124/18 **decidedly** [1] 54/19 deciding [1] 130/19 decision [2] 6/22 127/15 decisions [2] 3/17 4/7

	Proceedings	100
D	detailed [8] 78/23 80/12 133/9	discuss [1] 12/17
D	133/19 134/16 134/18 135/3	discussed [1] 150/17
declaration [1] 5/5	156/17	discussing [2] 50/7 131/3
declined [1] 149/17	details [5] 24/25 36/24 103/25	
decrease [1] 49/20	134/3 134/25	141/16 144/3
dedicated [3] 30/7 30/14 163/7		dismissal [2] 85/11 85/13
deep [1] 168/1	determination [3] 5/3 43/20	disparage [1] 104/6
Deer [1] 173/4	68/15	dispel [1] 51/11
deficiencies [1] 168/18	determinations [1] 67/18	dispenser [1] 17/6
defined [1] 67/14	determine [1] 68/20	dispensing [1] 105/25
definitely [2] 49/4 152/8	determined [1] 176/4	disperse [3] 34/18 34/21 34/22
definition [1] 67/13	determines [2] 82/22 136/2	displaying [1] 123/19
degree [2] 92/14 157/25	devaluation [1] 68/18	disrespect [1] 169/10
DEIS [53] 4/15 4/21 24/6 36/25		distance [1] 49/11
59/11 59/18 60/14 67/10 71/19	127/8	district [26] 22/9 22/11 22/13
72/8 72/15 72/22 73/20 76/7		
	developed [5] 14/6 14/10 87/3	22/17 22/21 22/23 47/9 47/16
77/22 79/19 82/8 83/18 86/13	119/10 164/3	47/24 48/9 48/19 48/22 57/10
94/16 103/16 104/14 112/23	developer [9] 11/1 13/9 32/17	57/18 79/18 80/1 80/11 89/9
133/6 133/13 135/11 135/15	32/18 33/15 39/13 84/11 122/3	103/7 114/21 120/18 121/2
135/20 136/17 139/20 140/7	141/9	121/7 122/5 122/13 122/15
140/14 142/18 143/10 143/22	developer's [1] 145/21	districts [2] 47/22 48/21
144/2 145/19 146/4 147/1	developers [3] 24/1 99/22	disturbed [1] 14/19
147/16 148/18 148/23 150/5	121/25	ditto [1] 153/15
153/20 154/22 155/11 156/1	developing [2] 13/1 77/17	diversions [1] 169/3
167/25 168/6 170/20 173/21	development [52] 13/12 13/19	division [2] 67/14 156/13
175/15 175/19	18/4 20/7 20/8 20/12 26/9	do [72] 11/7 12/20 16/18 17/8
delay [1] 108/11	28/8 37/7 40/1 40/6 42/18	
		17/19 17/19 22/12 22/17 23/4
delaying [1] 80/14	50/11 59/5 68/7 68/13 69/13	23/9 23/25 31/3 32/1 32/1
delays [3] 103/19 103/22	70/21 71/5 71/5 75/14 77/6	32/23 36/14 40/8 56/4 57/3
108/24	79/1 79/11 79/24 80/15 81/23	57/15 57/22 62/13 65/23 66/9
delicatessen [1] 153/19	86/16 86/22 87/6 91/7 101/17	66/10 67/9 70/9 70/24 71/25
deliver [1] 88/1	101/21 103/6 112/7 114/7	72/16 72/18 85/20 85/20 94/25
deliveries [1] 118/2	114/24 114/25 115/9 115/14	96/11 97/21 98/6 98/16 104/7
delivery [3] 31/24 76/13 148/5	116/17 117/8 120/5 122/25	107/11 107/18 108/12 111/8
demand [1] 49/8	125/6 126/8 126/11 126/15	116/1 120/3 122/11 125/4
demolished [1] 15/2	144/14 162/17 163/10 172/14	125/24 129/12 129/16 130/1
demolition [1] 18/6	developments [1] 126/13	136/4 139/8 139/8 146/18
denial [1] 144/9	deviation [1] 169/5	147/14 147/20 149/5 151/19
DEP [1] 20/19	dialogue [1] 10/19	157/21 157/22 159/23 160/17
	did [19] 23/10 23/12 38/14	161/7 163/11 165/20 166/19
	40/3 41/15 42/14 44/19 45/7	166/25 166/25 170/11 171/10
90/15 116/25 119/8 119/24	65/19 72/10 72/11 72/12 99/24	175/18
121/9 121/12 121/16 121/23	105/4 108/14 127/22 146/16	docket [1] 3/2
122/1 153/19	148/25 165/19	document [10] 8/21 10/3 24/24
departments [2] 121/3 149/10	didn't [6] 44/9 66/3 116/11	25/25 40/8 70/2 70/3 145/21
depends [1] 96/10	123/1 162/14 166/12	156/7 168/14
Depot [2] 159/11 159/14	difference [1] 45/9	documents [1] 8/25
depressed [1] 139/19	differences [1] 91/16	does [24] 5/1 5/1 17/8 17/8
derogatory [1] 9/12	different [6] 51/22 62/1 62/6	34/17 40/15 41/20 48/17 68/13
describe [1] 98/24	124/12 157/18 158/6	72/8 86/17 86/20 91/12 92/3
described [2] 25/10 31/18	difficult [3] 39/14 82/19	93/4 95/3 98/22 100/16 101/2
describes [2] 83/18 91/17	87/18	105/23 126/8 140/14 150/14
description [2] 134/18 135/3	diligence [1] 131/7	168/4
deserve [1] 161/22	Dineen [2] 10/20 53/24	doesn't [10] 33/12 80/17 81/1
design [7] 14/1 21/11 24/3	diner [1] 153/13	81/13 90/21 94/18 107/21
27/21 36/5 50/7 163/10	diners [1] 153/8	108/17 146/5 160/4
designated [2] 3/13 153/7	direct [6] 46/11 46/23 48/5	doing [12] 22/24 35/15 36/22
designates [1] 135/20		
	133/11 134/9 134/22	37/9 43/1 44/1 53/16 65/10
designations [1] 154/10	direction [4] 29/25 30/6 115/5	96/6 110/3 158/13 161/12
designed [5] 27/9 35/5 56/21	118/20	dollar [2] 27/25 58/1
92/12 92/18	directions [1] 75/21	dollars [32] 34/1 41/18 41/22
DeSISTO [1] 2/12	directly [2] 47/4 112/13	42/3 42/6 46/5 46/12 46/17
desk [1] 174/22	director [4] 2/13 13/1 50/11	46/21 48/1 48/7 57/9 57/17
despite [1] 91/15	68/2	57/22 112/24 113/3 113/14
destabilize [1] 149/23	Directors [1] 58/24	113/17 113/18 113/20 114/15
destination [2] 126/13 126/15	DIS [1] 73/20	114/17 120/12 129/23 129/25
destine [1] 17/15	disagree [1] 122/21	135/25 136/8 137/3 151/3
destined [1] 17/18	disciplinary [1] 37/17	151/6 171/8 171/10
detail [8] 105/18 121/11	disclosure [1] 4/8	Dom [1] 146/10
133/17 135/4 135/9 135/22	discount [1] 105/24	Dominic [1] 160/19
138/24 168/1	discount [1] 105/24 discounts [1] 126/19	Dom [1] 158/16
100/27 100/1		Dow [T] TOO\TO

	Proceedings	186
D	earning [1] 46/20	emissions [1] 139/11
don't [37] 27/18 34/23 36/14	earnings [3] 46/5 46/11 134/10	emphasis [1] 18/13
61/16 65/7 73/6 85/12 85/18	easel [1] 112/3 east [7] 16/21 17/7 34/22	<pre>emphasized [1] 14/22 employees [15] 50/23 50/25</pre>
88/18 92/19 106/5 109/2	34/24 84/8 121/21 137/16	51/6 51/9 122/19 123/10
119/20 119/22 121/4 123/12	eastern [1] 39/20	123/13 123/14 123/20 123/24
124/8 126/5 126/12 126/17	easy [3] 96/12 97/4 97/4	135/11 142/2 142/24 143/17
127/1 127/5 129/3 142/16 148/23 155/20 157/13 164/21	eating [1] 147/4 economic [13] 12/23 37/24 38/6	143/25 employers [1] 50/19
168/25 170/22 170/23 173/21	40/17 42/11 45/18 68/7 72/23	employment [2] 51/16 110/16
174/8 174/9 174/14 174/15	119/13 120/4 125/6 145/9	Emporium [2] 150/12 151/11
175/6	156/13	empty [3] 95/24 95/25 96/18
done [16] 13/21 18/8 18/21 26/10 61/2 73/2 85/8 86/3	economist [1] 49/2	EMS [14] 79/19 80/3 80/9 80/20
104/4 125/23 131/8 138/8	economy [9] 46/13 46/24 58/2 118/24 120/19 129/14 129/15	80/24 81/4 81/6 81/21 81/25 82/3 83/2 83/4 84/7 87/11
139/1 142/4 142/7 159/19	130/16 135/18	encouraged [1] 59/6
doodles [1] 87/24	Edison [2] 63/16 63/18	end [15] 17/23 18/3 26/24
door [4] 43/2 43/2 162/5	editor [1] 154/10	34/23 39/20 44/11 98/10
162/19 door-to-door [1] 43/2	editorial [1] 164/2 educate [1] 121/7	104/18 125/11 127/12 127/12 150/13 150/13 165/18 173/15
DOT [12] 19/9 27/9 30/9 30/24	educated [1] 114/10	endeavor [1] 11/22
31/11 32/20 33/7 35/12 97/11	educating [1] 114/12	endorse [1] 92/4
97/16 103/14 103/15	education [1] 115/2	ends [1] 104/20
DOT's [1] 35/24 DOTs [3] 29/16 35/10 37/4	effect [5] 74/13 74/20 77/17 102/7 173/23	Engine [1] 76/21 engineer [3] 13/10 23/21
dotted [1] 131/8	effects [1] 96/8	168/11
double [1] 98/15	effort [3] 8/11 100/2 169/17	engineering [4] 12/14 12/17
doubt [1] 156/10	efforts [1] 100/8	90/15 168/10
down [23] 15/9 15/14 16/13	eight [17] 41/10 42/1 42/2	Engineers [10] 13/5 13/9 23/22
16/16 18/9 18/17 21/15 26/21 27/5 27/6 28/23 36/8 43/4	44/25 61/23 67/2 71/23 75/18 109/13 113/20 114/8 129/25	72/11 77/25 79/21 82/17 105/20 105/23 109/9
47/14 62/16 62/18 63/23	134/11 140/1 148/20 160/20	English [1] 151/4
123/18 159/4 161/10 173/2	172/12	enhance [1] 91/14
173/6 173/12	eighteen [5] 11/19 30/1 46/7	enormous [1] 136/16
downtown [4] 75/11 76/9 76/11 96/24	52/25 117/20 eighth [1] 82/14	enough [6] 93/23 114/17 129/3 155/18 168/1 168/1
Dr. [3] 12/15 16/4 23/17	eighty [3] 134/12 137/3 164/13	
Dr. Phil [2] 16/4 23/17	EIS [18] 1/4 5/10 5/10 5/14	ensure [2] 5/25 9/1
Dr. Philip [1] 12/15	5/16 5/19 5/21 5/25 6/3 6/21	enter [1] 17/11
DRAFT [12] 1/4 3/6 5/10 5/14 5/19 5/21 5/25 6/3 6/20 74/18	8/7 10/2 10/7 14/24 40/3 41/2 48/3 105/19	enters [1] 142/5 entertainment [1] 147/10
86/23 99/18	either [9] 32/5 32/13 36/20	entire [9] 9/4 66/14 73/2 77/2
drain [1] 87/25	54/25 102/18 116/15 124/9	78/3 79/2 80/16 81/8 141/6
drastically [2] 30/5 94/7	124/14 168/24	entirely [1] 89/8
draw [1] 39/19 drawer [1] 12/5	electing [1] 9/10 electric [2] 21/18 66/4	entities [1] 130/12 entitled [3] 43/15 68/6 82/7
dredge [1] 174/9	element [1] 43/18	entitled [3] 43/15 68/6 82/7 entrance [12] 8/9 17/16 17/20
dredged [1] 172/25	elementary [1] 85/10	17/22 81/12 140/13 140/16
drive [7] 60/19 66/8 111/20	elements [1] 105/16	140/21 141/1 141/19 141/22
139/8 142/15 144/22 147/21	eleven [2] 48/7 103/16	143/5
driveway [3] 35/18 140/11 140/22	eleven million [1] 48/7 eligibility [1] 136/3	entrances [1] 142/10 entry [1] 17/8
driving [3] 53/2 81/15 142/23	eligible [1] 51/1	enumerated [1] 143/10
drugs [1] 147/6	eliminate [3] 92/7 137/17	enumerates [1] 144/6
due [7] 11/3 58/8 78/24 80/13	161/20	enumeration [1] 149/7
81/3 85/3 131/7 dumpster [1] 19/18	elimination [1] 94/16 elitist [1] 130/8	enviromental [7] 5/6 11/13 14/22 43/11 68/2 86/23 145/10
duplicate [1] 132/5	Ellion [1] 131/12	environment [6] 96/8 138/3
during [9] 10/5 34/14 46/1	Elliot [2] 115/20 131/14	157/19 158/1 158/2 166/5
46/5 46/17 109/11 111/22	Elliott [1] 131/13	environmental [21] 3/7 3/14
132/25 133/13	Elmsford [1] 37/18 else [4] 12/20 37/3 153/24	3/15 4/6 4/9 5/9 37/22 37/23 37/25 38/3 40/21 67/14 70/4
E	164/19	73/1 73/10 73/12 74/18 90/16
e-mail [1] 53/23	elsewhere [3] 41/22 53/9	99/18 139/17 168/9
each [9] 9/1 29/25 30/6 40/9	135/17	environmentalist [1] 66/7
43/3 55/22 55/23 70/18 162/13 eager [1] 6/23	embankment [5] 15/9 16/12	equal [1] 39/13
eager [1] 0/23 earlier [1] 39/9	16/16 18/16 19/1 emergencies [1] 92/21	equally [1] 4/20 equation [1] 115/4
early [4] 12/6 33/15 85/11	emergency [12] 74/21 74/21	equipment [4] 82/25 83/8 83/9
85/13	77/20 79/22 82/13 82/15 84/20	83/10
earn [2] 130/15 157/6	85/1 85/4 86/10 87/14 161/6	equivalent [3] 46/3 46/16

Е equivalent... [1] 133/16 erasions [1] 168/14 Erich [3] 12/24 50/1 50/10 especially [2] 32/6 129/15 **ESQ [1]** 2/11 essence [1] 90/24 **Essentially [2]** 41/3 42/16 establishment [2] 43/6 43/7 establishments [8] 42/19 43/6 43/10 148/19 148/21 148/24 155/15 155/16 estate [8] 50/11 99/21 120/6 165/5 165/6 165/8 165/11 173/25 **Estates [2]** 38/10 173/4 **estimate** [1] 45/15 estimated [4] 108/3 123/5 123/8 133/1 estimates [2] 122/19 132/25 estimation [1] 105/7 etc [9] 15/3 20/6 24/4 27/1 27/18 33/20 40/11 44/1 44/6 Eunice [2] 1/23 177/16 evacuation [5] 85/3 85/15 85/21 86/11 86/17 evaluated [1] 68/20 Evan [3] 67/2 87/21 88/3 Evans's [2] 15/19 19/1 even [16] 11/16 20/4 44/16 77/18 91/22 96/20 97/16 107/16 114/18 116/12 118/15 127/1 130/13 148/8 151/18 154/3 evening [19] 3/5 23/19 23/22 37/14 38/11 54/3 55/14 58/18 59/11 60/21 65/2 95/13 99/13 110/7 111/19 115/16 115/22 146/13 156/21 event [1] 92/21 eventually [2] 118/25 172/24 ever [1] 97/24 every [11] 8/11 10/15 35/3 52/12 57/22 122/11 123/23 131/8 132/15 132/15 168/4 everybody [22] 3/3 9/17 25/13 26/8 37/15 74/8 89/2 125/24 128/14 128/16 128/17 128/22 129/9 157/1 159/7 162/21 164/10 164/18 164/19 165/10 170/2 176/12 everybody's [1] 87/16 everyday [4] 77/1 77/14 123/23 124/5 everyone [9] 8/12 43/15 45/24 51/17 53/21 54/3 95/15 161/12 167/16 everything [9] 37/20 61/9 96/7 131/9 148/10 159/11 166/15 167/25 172/1 evidence [2] 124/16 149/21 **exacerbate** [1] 94/23 **examine** [1] 40/22 **examined** [1] 108/7 example [10] 32/24 43/23 67/10 71/7 113/24 124/6 150/10 153/8 154/15 169/21 examples [1] 151/23 excellent [3] 79/15 87/10 104/4

except [3] 73/16 166/8 170/6 exception [2] 150/23 165/10 excess [3] 109/1 148/19 150/18 excluded [1] 101/10 **excluding** [1] 100/22 exclusively [1] 163/9 **excuse** [2] 8/3 78/20 executive [5] 61/24 76/6 82/5 83/17 162/6 executive's [2] 119/18 120/23 **executives** [1] 164/18 exercise [2] 143/8 149/10 exist [5] 48/15 61/20 62/11 62/24 108/16 existent [1] 59/25 existing [24] 14/11 14/13 15/1 15/2 15/3 15/10 15/11 17/6 18/7 18/16 19/15 28/4 32/5 35/7 35/8 35/23 59/9 98/20 104/8 125/2 144/1 144/6 152/20 169/6 exists [2] 21/12 65/9 exit [2] 17/18 81/12 **exiting [1]** 34/13 **expand** [2] 29/6 152/18 expanded [2] 65/20 70/4 expect [4] 6/24 78/16 103/2 161/2expectations [2] 3/25 6/2 expected [2] 71/15 167/22 expects [1] 46/15 expenditures [1] 46/23 experience [4] 13/11 62/4 164/10 172/13 experienced [2] 33/16 172/15 expert [3] 56/24 170/7 170/9 experts [2] 5/20 169/20 explains [2] 79/25 82/8 express [1] 8/1 **Expressway** [1] 63/13 **extend [4]** 7/11 21/25 36/8 175/6 extended [1] 20/22 **extending** [1] 84/15 extends [1] 18/17 **extension** [9] 26/20 27/13 28/2 28/10 29/18 30/11 36/8 167/5 171/25 **extent [1]** 44/7 **extra [2]** 75/10 157/6 **extreme** [1] 21/12 **extremely** [1] 63/22 eyeglasses [1] 154/1 eyes [1] 99/12 eyesore [1] 131/6 fabulous [1] 153/21 facilities [8] 20/10 35/5 82/6 104/21 105/25 107/22 107/24 109/17 facility [10] 85/22 93/12 101/7 101/12 101/13 102/22 103/4 103/4 139/9 139/14 fact [12] 40/23 44/8 68/3 70/1 72/25 79/3 89/8 94/22 103/8 111/25 148/25 162/19 **factor** [1] 93/1 factors [3] 4/6 68/19 69/2 facts [4] 24/24 86/25 135/15 150/1

Proceedings

fail [2] 115/4 144/20 **failing [1]** 57/21 **fails [3]** 143/22 144/2 145/21 failure [5] 140/24 141/11 141/18 144/7 169/1 **fair [1]** 87/4 faith [2] 58/11 151/10 Falk [1] 174/19 **false [1]** 54/14 **familiar [1]** 25/13 families [3] 130/18 130/20 137/1family [5] 112/16 114/23 124/3 130/1 137/3 **fan [1]** 146/5 far [7] 16/19 16/21 38/9 41/11 69/20 116/5 151/24 Farm [2] 38/10 152/14 **farms [1]** 160/12 farther [1] 17/13 Fast [1] 153/15 fat [1] 149/24 favor [2] 146/18 175/21 **favorable** [1] 56/17 favorite [2] 149/1 156/2 **feature [2]** 14/4 15/17 February [5] 67/21 69/22 70/14 71/3 73/11 February 23rd [1] 73/11 federal [1] 115/6 feed [1] 130/20 feel [6] 8/20 53/11 82/18 116/4 126/13 154/19 **feels [1]** 48/25 fees [2] 136/9 136/12 feet [13] 16/10 16/14 71/8 71/10 72/2 72/17 94/5 105/9 140/10 140/13 141/21 142/12 143/5 **fell [1]** 162/20 fellow [1] 23/23 **FEMA [1]** 173/17 **fence [1]** 14/13 Ferrandino [6] 12/21 12/21 37/11 37/15 37/16 104/2 few [13] 3/22 32/21 50/14 66/5 70/9 77/18 106/6 117/5 120/6 151/23 155/15 159/20 168/19 fewer [3] 79/2 80/16 81/9 **field [1]** 164/2 fifteen [5] 30/1 63/2 64/4 75/10 118/23 **fifty [14]** 40/24 46/2 50/23 71/8 75/18 90/3 93/7 94/3 111/22 133/2 133/15 133/23 136/20 160/21 fifty-eight [1] 75/18 50/23 93/7 fifty-one [2] fifty-six percent [1] 94/3 **fifty-three** [1] 133/2 fighters [4] 83/2 83/4 83/9 87/11 **figure [5]** 113/7 133/5 133/10 133/11 137/20 figures [8] 24/25 86/25 114/19 119/14 135/16 138/1 138/6 159/23 **filled [1]** 134/20 final [7] 5/10 7/24 8/7 10/2 10/7 11/13 170/20 finally [5] 10/14 99/2 131/1

<pre>inally [2] 131/23 136/9 inancial [2] 79/23 154/3 ind [12] 6/7 37/1 44/16 72/6 74/24 92/15 97/23 122/15 149/2 149/24 166/18 176/5 inding [1] 154/11 ine [5] 92/1 94/25 96/14 126/7 162/1</pre>	food [15] 65/12 130/17 130/17 130/25 147/3 147/4 150/12 150/25 151/2 151/8 151/10 153/11 153/11 163/3 164/3 foods [4] 130/20 147/4 153/15 163/19	103/4 fueling [3] 17/7 107/22 107/23 full [11] 4/8 31/18 36/11 40/11 46/3 46/16 95/19 133/15 135/13 144/2 173/10
<pre>inally [2] 131/23 136/9 inancial [2] 79/23 154/3 ind [12] 6/7 37/1 44/16 72/6 74/24 92/15 97/23 122/15 149/2 149/24 166/18 176/5 inding [1] 154/11 ine [5] 92/1 94/25 96/14</pre>	150/25 151/2 151/8 151/10 153/11 153/11 163/3 164/3 foods [4] 130/20 147/4 153/15 163/19	full [11] 4/8 31/18 36/11 40/11 46/3 46/16 95/19 133/15
<pre>inancial [2] 79/23 154/3 ind [12] 6/7 37/1 44/16 72/6 74/24 92/15 97/23 122/15 149/2 149/24 166/18 176/5 inding [1] 154/11 ine [5] 92/1 94/25 96/14</pre>	153/11 153/11 163/3 164/3 foods [4] 130/20 147/4 153/15 163/19	40/11 46/3 46/16 95/19 133/15
<pre>ind [12] 6/7 37/1 44/16 72/6 74/24 92/15 97/23 122/15 149/2 149/24 166/18 176/5 inding [1] 154/11 ine [5] 92/1 94/25 96/14</pre>	foods [4] 130/20 147/4 153/15 163/19	
74/24 92/15 97/23 122/15 149/2 149/24 166/18 176/5 inding [1] 154/11 ine [5] 92/1 94/25 96/14	163/19	135/13 144/2 173/10
149/2 149/24 166/18 176/5 inding [1] 154/11 ine [5] 92/1 94/25 96/14		
inding [1] 154/11 ine [5] 92/1 94/25 96/14		fully [4] 18/18 38/19 134/8
ine [5] 92/1 94/25 96/14	foot [12] 15/10 15/22 40/24	144/11
	83/25 84/11 84/13 90/4 91/20	function [1] 36/23
126/7 162/1	93/8 136/20 162/5 162/18	fund [1] 162/17
120// 102/1	footage [1] 150/19	funded [1] 29/12
inesse [2] 97/16 97/17	football [4] 90/8 91/23 93/3	funding [2] 82/15 83/6
inish [2] 16/5 85/7	95/7	funeral [1] 148/8
ire [28] 75/3 77/20 79/18	footprint [1] 119/11	Furnace [1] 80/4
79/18 80/1 80/2 80/3 80/4	footwear [2] 147/12 155/17	furnishings [1] 147/7
80/6 80/9 80/11 80/20 80/23	force [1] 87/10	further [15] 36/9 41/24 42/5
81/4 81/20 81/24 82/3 82/12	forced [1] 173/17	54/17 55/3 60/14 83/5 84/19
83/2 83/4 83/9 87/10 88/11	forces [1] 142/11	86/15 87/3 87/5 88/16 88/22
121/2 121/8 121/9 121/12	Ford [1] 129/20	97/5 131/2
121/15	foreign [1] 52/14	future [7] 35/23 96/24 103/23
irm [8] 12/14 23/6 23/24	forget [2] 85/20 127/5	104/9 105/4 105/12 155/7
37/18 99/19 163/6 163/8 166/9		
irst [24] 20/16 24/11 36/16	forgot Louie [1] 158/20	G
40/19 45/23 51/5 54/4 55/18	form [3] 22/13 22/17 70/4	gains [1] 167/17
56/8 65/20 71/1 74/2 75/13	format [1] 116/15	game [2] 95/8 120/3
77/1 89/2 99/8 112/1 116/14	former [5] 38/11 38/15 44/19	garage [3] 90/7 152/3 152/3
131/22 160/14 162/9 163/7	71/22 130/21	Garden [1] 173/7
165/20 165/21	forms [1] 139/13	garment [1] 132/13
irsts [1] 18/6	formula [1] 113/8	gas [21] 14/14 40/25 66/8
iscal [7] 12/23 37/12 38/5	formulas [1] 123/4	76/13 89/10 90/7 93/5 105/25
40/11 45/17 48/3 72/23		111/1 111/2 126/17 126/19
isher [1] 115/19	forth [4] 7/1 102/24 137/14	
	169/4	126/23 126/23 127/14 130/23
it [2] 84/17 118/3	Fortune [1] 119/25	139/10 161/11 161/22 171/5
ive [61] 8/16 8/17 9/6 24/13	forty [15] 13/11 19/20 46/19	171/8
24/16 27/24 28/6 29/21 31/21	119/2 129/5 130/21 132/14	gasoline [2] 147/11 152/6
33/22 35/2 37/19 41/8 41/10	136/24 137/11 151/3 151/5	gateway [1] 64/5
41/16 41/19 42/1 42/21 43/3	160/20 162/3 162/13 171/10	Gave [1] 129/20
43/10 44/25 46/19 51/15 54/1	forty millions [1] 151/5	gee [1] 163/5
59/12 60/5 60/22 62/25 63/4	forty-eight [1] 160/20	general [1] 121/1
65/3 71/13 71/14 74/3 74/5	forty-five [1] 46/19	generate [8] 34/9 34/10 34/12
74/7 75/10 80/8 80/19 80/23	forty-four [2] 136/24 137/11	47/12 82/9 112/23 113/3 133/3
94/5 98/14 104/15 107/10	forty-seven [1] 162/13	generated [8] 47/21 48/8 72/1
109/1 115/25 117/9 120/11	forward [11] 10/18 24/22 33/25	
124/13 125/20 128/21 129/25	58/14 58/14 69/7 91/25 101/24	
133/2 133/3 134/14 135/7	109/20 115/13 171/22	generating [5] 46/4 47/2 47/1
138/7 139/1 152/21 173/2	found [4] 54/22 62/10 63/16	47/25 104/22
173/16 173/17	83/3	generation [4] 77/8 105/14
ive million [1] 33/22	four [26] 11/3 29/21 46/7	105/18 107/20
ive-lane [1] 28/6	49/10 56/5 60/17 61/20 62/10	gentleman [2] 125/21 159/12
ix [3] 33/2 36/12 61/7	62/23 66/23 66/23 90/2 99/8	gentlemen [1] 13/8
lat [1] 16/15	113/15 114/14 115/19 117/7	geographical [1] 150/17
lattered [1] 54/20	131/17 136/24 137/11 138/7	geometries [1] 108/16
lavor [1] 37/2	146/9 146/11 148/19 152/20	George [3] 99/10 111/13 115/1
law [1] 105/21	158/23	get [51] 5/1 5/1 8/17 18/21
laws [1] 146/3	fourteen [3] 25/23 64/4 98/16	25/2 27/5 27/7 28/11 29/2
lip [1] 22/18	fourth [3] 16/3 56/12 80/9	30/3 30/22 31/15 32/19 63/11
loating [1] 50/15	frankly [1] 58/2	66/23 70/22 75/11 75/11 84/7
lood [3] 173/18 173/19 174/3	free [2] 100/20 139/17	84/22 87/22 90/21 92/20 93/1
looding [6] 172/16 172/21	frequency [1] 143/12	103/14 107/13 109/22 109/25
173/1 173/3 173/5 174/8	frequent [1] 143/21	121/4 124/8 125/24 128/8
loor [2] 10/13 163/5	frequently [1] 126/24	128/10 128/11 128/15 128/16
loral [1] 148/9	Friday [1] 110/21	131/22 139/1 148/6 155/20
lowers [1] 147/24		156/6 156/19 157/3 157/3
lowers [1] 147/24 lyer [1] 54/11	friends [1] 160/8	150/16 162/16 164/24 165/13
	front [9] 10/24 17/1 33/9	
LYNN [1] 2/6	85/18 112/3 151/13 152/12	166/23 170/2 173/18
ocus [1] 139/2	174/18 174/22	gets [7] 25/20 27/16 74/9
oley [2] 146/10 156/20	frontage [4] 11/22 11/24 21/18	112/19 153/23 159/17 166/6
ollowed [1] 112/8	21/20	getting [13] 26/16 36/1 48/24
ollowing [5] 4/18 7/9 10/11	Frozen [1] 154/17	81/7 99/12 113/9 131/24
140/22 168/18	fuel [7] 31/23 35/4 101/6	132/23 132/23 150/8 163/19
ollows [1] 47/14	102/21 103/3 103/4 150/23	167/4 168/22
	fuel-in [4] 101/6 102/21 103/3	giant [1] 90/4
ON [1] 2/3		

	Proceedings	
		Hansen [4] 99/10 111/13 115/18
	Granting [1] 94/6	115/18
	graph [1] 112/2 graphic [3] 14/7 15/5 22/8	happen [7] 7/20 85/13 108/18 120/21 137/15 150/10 160/24
		happened [2] 22/7 164/8
37/2 52/20 56/6 74/4 94/8		happening [3] 25/6 30/20
	gray [1] 14/10	104/23
		happens [1] 151/11
129/2 144/8 151/22 160/25		happily [1] 147/21
		happy [2] 19/10 107/1
		hard [5] 87/10 92/11 113/7
	great [10] 62/1 62/9 77/15	118/24 125/20
81/21 103/8 115/16 138/1	86/18 118/14 124/8 145/11	harmony [1] 103/5
149/11 149/15	146/17 165/25 166/6	Hartsdale [1] 1/24
	greater [1] 138/24	has [84] 5/23 8/12 8/13 9/2
	greatest [1] 21/14	9/17 11/22 11/24 12/1 12/18
	Grecco [1] 111/14	13/19 15/12 15/22 19/2 20/9
	green [8] 14/8 17/24 17/25	20/17 26/7 26/18 27/8 27/9
glasses [1] 148/2	17/25 18/1 18/2 18/4 22/20	27/10 27/21 30/1 33/11 41/23
	Greenburgh [1] 39/5	52/1 52/20 54/8 54/9 54/11
glow [1] 159/4 go [53] 16/4 17/15 19/13 19/22	greenhouse [1] 139/10	54/24 56/2 56/20 62/6 68/10 68/19 72/14 73/15 75/14 75/17
	grew [1] 38/8	68/19 72/14 73/15 75/14 75/17 83/6 100/1 103/9 103/10
	grew [1] 38/8 groceries [1] 171/13	104/25 105/2 108/2 108/9
	grocery [2] 150/9 151/11	108/12 110/15 110/16 110/19
	grossly [2] 126/21 145/24	118/8 118/24 119/12 121/9
	ground [1] 11/10	121/20 121/20 121/24 128/22
	group [8] 9/9 13/9 14/1 54/9	130/17 137/7 142/14 144/13
123/7 125/9 131/25 132/2	55/5 112/6 167/12 170/13	145/5 149/17 150/18 151/15
137/6 137/9 138/6 150/14	group's [2] 9/11 54/18	153/18 153/18 157/1 158/4
	groups [1] 134/1	161/17 161/18 162/21 162/24
157/19 158/17 159/24 160/1	Grove [2] 28/1 29/23	167/11 168/11 168/13 168/17
	grow [1] 98/19	169/11 169/22 171/6 171/13
	growth [4] 98/14 98/17 98/18	172/12
goal [2] 69/4 98/13		hasn't [2] 127/8 169/12
		hate [1] 50/9
		hauler [1] 51/19
goes [8] 38/13 41/11 47/4 47/7		have [245]
		have just [1] 160/10
-		haven't [5] 6/6 36/4 37/5 122/2 170/16
gone [1] 130/18	guys [15] 53/15 85/25 85/25 89/4 93/19 95/9 107/15 107/15	having [2] 88/12 125/21
Jone [1] 130/18 Jonna [11] 20/16 25/1 58/4		Hawthorne [1] 111/20
58/5 125/5 137/13 138/2		hazardous [4] 14/20 14/25 18/9
	guzzlers [1] 66/8	20/5
		hazards [2] 141/2 141/13
21/1 23/19 23/22 37/14 53/12		he [12] 12/25 13/1 13/2 33/16
54/3 55/14 58/7 58/9 58/18	had [23] 6/6 9/17 24/11 31/17	50/3 78/6 78/10 78/15 80/7
60/20 61/10 65/2 74/1 95/13	33/17 40/7 58/12 96/21 96/22	112/18 112/18 146/16
99/13 110/7 111/19 115/22		he'll [1] 125/23
146/13 156/21 159/13 160/10		head [1] 119/17
160/15 160/16 160/17 165/22		heading [6] 25/18 27/4 27/17
168/23 171/14 171/14 171/15	173/5 173/7	28/11 28/20 115/7
		headquarters [2] 80/3 134/23
		health [2] 148/5 154/4
	half [6] 33/18 33/24 34/1 36/6	
got [20] 32/22 60/20 90/8		hear [9] 4/2 4/4 6/19 6/23
	hall [3] 67/25 143/2 143/7	108/16 125/23 126/5 128/14
	Hallmark [2] 163/19 164/18 hamlet [5] 43/10 45/13 91/15	170/22
172/21 173/11 173/12 173/20	namiet [5] 43/10 45/13 91/15 91/19 100/22	heard [8] 8/14 9/2 60/6 61/9
		122/2 126/4 140/18 170/16 hearing [17] 1/4 3/6 3/25 4/1
gotten [1] 129/20	44/16 96/25 98/24 135/7	4/19 6/12 6/16 7/10 66/22
	151/15 152/21	106/25 107/4 111/9 138/20
		145/10 175/16 175/19 175/24
government [3] 115/6 115/7	hand [1] 49725	· · · · / · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
government [3] 115/6 115/7 163/21	hand [1] 49/25 handed [1] 54/11	
government [3] 115/6 115/7 163/21 government is [1] 115/6	handed [1] 54/11	hearings [1] 100/9
government [3] 115/6 115/7 163/21 government is [1] 115/6 Governor [1] 120/5	handed [1] 54/11 handle [7] 24/10 31/19 35/9	hearings [1] 100/9 heart [1] 63/9
government [3] 115/6 115/7 163/21 government is [1] 115/6 government [1] 120/5 governor's [1] 119/17	handed [1] 54/11 handle [7] 24/10 31/19 35/9 117/20 117/22 117/23 117/25	hearings [1] 100/9 heart [1] 63/9 heavily [1] 103/9
government [3] 115/6 115/7 163/21 government is [1] 115/6 government [1] 120/5 governor's [1] 119/17 grade [1] 16/3	handed [1] 54/11 handle [7] 24/10 31/19 35/9 117/20 117/22 117/23 117/25 handling [1] 35/8	hearings [1] 100/9 heart [1] 63/9 heavily [1] 103/9 heavy [1] 100/23
government [3] 115/6 115/7 163/21 government is [1] 115/6 governor [1] 120/5 120/5 governor's [1] 119/17 119/17 grade [1] 16/3 16/3 Grandma's [1] 27/1 100/10	<pre>handed [1] 54/11 handle [7] 24/10 31/19 35/9 117/20 117/22 117/23 117/25 handling [1] 35/8 handwriting [1] 111/17</pre>	hearings [1] 100/9 heart [1] 63/9 heavily [1] 103/9

91/11 91/13 92/19 92/20 98/6 45/2 45/4 49/23 59/8 59/22 Η 98/19 108/22 109/3 110/3 59/24 61/6 64/19 64/20 71/1 height [4] 11/6 94/4 94/6 95/2 115/21 125/4 129/12 129/16 71/4 73/1 73/12 74/18 78/2 Heights [16] 1/8 7/14 10/24 129/22 130/1 133/5 133/10 86/24 99/18 119/13 126/18 42/24 44/17 45/11 52/24 53/25 133/11 134/3 135/4 135/12 135/18 149/19 154/5 167/18 156/24 162/2 162/10 162/20 135/12 135/13 135/25 143/24 impacted [3] 79/24 148/25 163/15 163/25 164/5 164/7 144/3 146/11 154/20 155/20 168/15 held [1] 176/3 161/25 166/25 167/1 impacts [26] 4/10 4/12 12/23 Hello [1] 67/5 37/12 40/17 42/18 45/18 45/19 however [10] 8/15 21/20 23/9 help [7] 3/10 19/10 25/8 44/5 68/17 88/16 100/18 46/14 48/4 49/2 62/14 68/11 130/13 158/8 162/7 170/15 133/17 159/24 168/17 70/23 72/21 72/24 86/16 91/11 helped [3] 5/25 33/2 118/15 104/11 116/21 121/11 121/12 Hudson [4] 75/6 81/11 81/16 helping [1] 24/2 84/22 122/16 127/11 139/17 169/2 helps [3] 134/24 139/13 166/7 huge [2] 11/22 119/3 impervious [6] 14/11 14/17 her [3] 85/7 85/16 87/20 hugger [1] 95/20 20/5 96/1 127/19 127/25 huh [1] 174/4 here [94] implemented [1] 25/8 herself [1] 3/2 hundred [61] 15/9 15/22 17/1 implications [1] 97/15 Hi [2] 87/22 138/21 40/24 42/2 43/9 46/2 46/10 implies [1] 54/17 high [8] 25/17 30/12 31/8 importance [4] 12/2 77/2 86/18 50/22 50/24 52/3 52/4 52/25 38/14 75/2 137/17 139/15 57/9 57/17 59/12 60/5 63/20 113/22 166/4 71/7 71/10 71/13 71/14 72/1 important [15] 7/15 19/24 higher [1] 34/15 72/17 75/18 78/8 90/3 93/7 32/19 34/25 42/13 74/23 77/14 81/18 93/4 105/16 106/6 highest [1] 50/20 105/8 105/8 109/13 109/15 highway [5] 11/25 32/25 76/11 113/16 113/19 114/9 114/14 113/25 135/14 139/6 148/15 84/18 172/24 114/15 117/10 130/10 133/2 importantly [1] 4/20 highways [2] 63/11 94/13 133/3 133/23 134/9 134/11 **impressed** [1] 56/23 hill [5] 58/17 58/20 89/19 134/12 134/21 135/3 136/20 impression [1] 54/15 89/22 173/20 136/24 137/11 138/7 140/10 improve [2] 97/13 158/13 hilly [1] 145/15 140/13 141/21 142/12 143/4 improvement [2] 29/9 34/6 him [3] 50/3 125/23 158/17 145/5 148/19 148/20 152/20 improvements [28] 23/3 24/4 hire [3] 79/12 81/24 83/3 24/23 25/4 25/7 26/3 27/9 161/17 hired [2] 38/18 120/5 hundreds [3] 48/1 122/11 123/6 28/18 29/1 29/2 29/17 30/20 hiring [2] 83/7 83/10 hunt [1] 52/7 32/4 32/21 33/19 34/2 37/4 his [7] 13/25 69/5 77/24 78/6 76/1 76/8 76/10 76/19 77/10 Hunter [1] 138/23 78/15 79/20 95/11 Hunterbrook [12] 10/20 15/15 77/18 97/2 103/13 103/20 historically [1] 32/19 21/6 21/7 22/14 53/25 66/25 118/13 129/18 112/19 hit [1] improving [2] 30/9 35/21 145/14 173/11 173/14 173/15 HOCHMAN [1] 2/10 173/16 inadequacies [1] 151/12 hold [3] 92/18 119/4 175/13 Huntersville [1] 145/4 inadequacy [2] 143/9 144/6 Holidays [1] 140/6 Inc [3] 11/1 13/10 37/17 hurt [2] 98/4 161/14 inch [1] 94/17 Hollow [1] 173/4 hurting [1] 57/5 home [15] 38/12 97/23 112/16 Incidentally [1] 66/2 husband [2] 146/16 148/2 114/23 147/3 147/5 147/5 inclement [1] 142/12 hybrid [1] 93/9 148/5 154/4 154/25 159/11 hybrids [1] 66/5 include [9] 72/21 100/25 101/2 159/14 165/20 165/21 165/22 Hyde [1] 162/12 105/24 123/25 134/3 152/19 156/16 168/9 homeowners [1] 112/6 hysteria [1] 159/13 homes [7] 64/9 71/24 74/25 included [8] 41/2 54/9 136/10 Ι 114/8 114/19 114/25 130/1 151/18 153/16 153/17 163/10 homework [1] 159/19 I'd [3] 26/1 50/13 129/10 170/19 hope [3] 55/21 55/22 56/4 **I'll [6]** 73/19 93/2 145/1 includes [3] 84/11 147/24 hoping [1] 92/23 146/14 160/2 163/6 154/24 hospital [7] 75/6 75/6 81/6 **I'm [3]** 65/2 116/2 162/1 including [14] 15/8 15/20 81/10 81/11 81/17 84/22 I've [12] 50/14 61/9 95/17 33/20 52/14 77/7 135/4 141/7 host [1] 144/14 95/21 102/2 104/3 110/22 147/3 149/22 152/2 154/7 hotel [3] 16/24 40/5 89/18 117/4 117/5 129/4 145/6 156/9 163/19 165/7 hour [16] 25/15 27/16 34/11 160/20 income [3] 51/15 137/2 137/24 34/15 51/12 51/13 51/14 71/13 ice [2] 141/6 141/12 incomplete [1] 152/8 71/14 74/4 75/18 105/22 108/3 idea [3] 113/12 136/7 148/16 78/7 78/9 79/9 increase [14] 134/14 134/15 134/17 identification [2] 4/11 26/15 83/15 94/3 94/6 95/1 95/4 hours [4] 31/25 108/10 117/10 identified [10] 5/8 14/21 95/5 97/7 97/14 122/23 127/1 140/3 15/19 25/25 33/14 34/5 42/22 145/13 house [2] 159/3 163/14 104/16 168/17 169/1 increased [3] 77/16 81/3 household [2] 130/4 147/7 identify [1] 24/9 145/16 households [1] 53/7 **ill [1]** 117/18 increasing [1] 122/22 houses [5] 71/24 75/1 96/10 **ill-planned [1]** 117/18 incredible [1] 153/19 image [2] 55/4 55/8 173/16 174/1 indeed [1] 68/21 housing [4] 89/24 147/8 147/9 imagine [2] 15/11 49/12 independent [1] 67/17 163/10 immediately [1] 10/11 index [1] 150/7 how [46] 13/3 25/7 35/22 36/23 impact [37] 3/7 5/6 11/13 21/5 Indian [4] 85/4 85/22 86/10 42/17 51/24 52/10 53/16 67/7 23/11 23/14 37/22 37/23 37/24 159/5 73/25 83/10 84/17 84/19 86/13 38/3 38/5 38/6 44/4 44/14 indicate [2] 65/14 140/14

Proceedings

	Proceedings	193
I	investigation [1] 88/16	51/22 53/22 60/23 62/11 62/14 68/17 69/1 69/3 72/4 73/4
indicated [1] 20/2	investigations [1] 78/11 investment [1] 58/1	68/17 69/1 69/3 72/4 73/4 74/8 74/15 85/9 85/9 87/4
indicates [1] 14/9	invite [1] 102/25	87/15 87/24 89/5 91/1 91/24
indirect [5] 46/14 46/19 46/23		99/10 101/5 102/25 107/7
48/5 49/23	involved [6] 5/20 6/4 11/3	109/19 110/13 110/23 110/24
indirectly [1] 46/15	27/21 58/25 164/24	113/11 118/16 119/4 119/6
individual [8] 54/9 54/13	ironically [1] 38/13	120/24 121/21 123/12 124/6
54/18 55/4 67/18 81/15 112/5	is [589]	126/22 129/2 131/8 138/4
171/12	Island [4] 61/25 63/3 63/13	138/9 138/14 146/5 146/18
individuals [1] 154/6 industry [7] 50/21 51/4 132/14	64/11	150/3 151/25 152/15 154/10 154/18 157/4 157/5 157/6
154/6 165/6 165/11 171/9	isolated [1] 15/23	154/18 157/4 157/5 157/6 157/11 158/5 158/14 160/10
inevitable [2] 145/13 153/3	issue [6] 43/13 54/12 54/25	161/6 161/7 162/10 163/2
infiltration [1] 20/24	85/1 102/16 153/4	163/7 164/10 166/4 168/19
influence [1] 44/20	issues [13] 5/9 12/18 24/9	173/11 174/13 175/1 175/12
inform [1] 143/11	24/21 25/23 78/25 82/19 87/2	175/16
informal [1] 116/15	107/20 136/16 145/10 165/2	justify [1] 136/19
information [6] 103/15 108/1	165/2	JV [1] 155/18
159/1 170/11 170/14 170/16	it [294]	К
<pre>informative [1] 143/24 infrastructure [5] 37/9 69/14</pre>	it's [9] 63/21 86/1 94/17	Kansas [1] 164/16
97/8 98/20 118/11		Kansas [1] 164/16 Kaplan [3] 67/3 95/11 95/16
infuse [1] 129/14		Katonah [2] 76/17 76/24
Inn [2] 38/15 38/16		keep [15] 7/5 11/5 42/10 53/10
inner [2] 41/7 41/8	item [1] 3/2	53/14 64/23 66/13 66/13 86/1
insight [2] 13/3 117/12	items [1] 5/15	87/18 87/19 115/24 120/9
insist [1] 9/3	its [20] 5/13 5/23 13/18 15/14	
insisting [1] 150/2		keeping [5] 11/6 106/18 106/25
insists [1] 55/2	74/24 81/11 86/11 100/3 100/3	107/4 125/19
<pre>inspector [1] 90/16 install [1] 22/25</pre>		keeps [1] 60/9 Kellner [3] 131/16 138/20
installed [1] 83/21	163/21 173/13 itself [6] 21/7 63/19 85/2	138/22
instance [3] 67/11 69/4 73/21		kept [1] 28/24
instead [6] 33/8 94/5 119/10		key [7] 43/24 44/21 77/3 86/22
137/21 142/22 144/5	J	87/6 136/15 155/13
institute [6] 38/20 105/20		Khol's [1] 161/11
105/23 109/8 162/8 163/1	Japan [1] 52/15	kids [8] 57/11 57/14 88/6
insulting [1] 92/15	Jay [1] 64/25	116/8 121/7 122/7 153/24
insurance [3] 148/6 154/4	Jefferson [5] 42/25 58/22	157/3
173/18 insure [1] 4/6		KINCART [1] 2/4 kind [16] 62/6 62/7 73/4 93/1
intend [2] 7/18 14/2	Jennifer [1] 131/14	93/9 105/21 113/11 137/19
intended [4] 42/17 94/9 139/16	jeopardize [1] 161/5	138/10 148/6 154/11 154/19
162/3	Jersey [2] 63/17 120/7	155/23 164/11 165/15 165/16
intensely [1] 58/10	jewelery [2] 147/24 147/25	kindly [3] 133/20 135/1 135/23
intensive [2] 101/8 168/3		Kingdom [1] 52/16
intent [2] 21/24 73/18		Kisco [1] 76/23
intention [1] 104/6	job [5] 17/9 96/9 104/4 130/13	
intentionally [1] 125/3 interchange [6] 25/12 27/13		kitchens [2] 152/11 152/13 Kmart [1] 150/13
29/1 31/1 31/9 35/20		knew [1] 166/12
interconnected [2] 31/15 32/15		knock [1] 123/17
interest [6] 11/4 12/19 23/6		know [59] 5/2 9/9 12/7 12/18
32/1 163/2 167/2	134/4 134/4 134/10 134/17	18/12 19/19 23/7 24/12 24/25
interested [3] 3/23 6/5 47/1	134/19 134/19 134/20 134/22	25/14 36/15 52/8 53/14 57/2
interim [3] 32/23 111/9 130/11		57/3 58/9 61/7 61/19 62/5
internet [2] 61/21 62/11	157/5	63/3 88/14 90/25 92/19 94/25
intersection [10] 21/22 30/4	Joe [3] 55/14 146/10 156/20	100/1 106/3 106/14 106/15
30/16 33/3 33/4 108/13 109/2	JOHN [11] 2/4 2/5 2/6 2/13	109/2 116/12 116/14 116/21
118/12 121/18 140/9 intersections [7] 25/24 103/11	7/13 8/25 9/25 23/21 72/11 92/23 109/23	121/1 121/3 122/18 123/4 124/2 126/2 128/12 130/22
103/17 108/25 117/1 117/19	Joseph [1] 55/12	132/22 134/25 144/16 147/20
118/15	Journal [1] 6/13	153/12 159/7 159/23 160/7
	jumped [1] 10/21	160/8 160/9 160/11 164/19
intersects [3] 26/20 29/24		164/22 165/25 166/3 166/13
intersects [3] 26/20 29/24 30/10	jumping [1] 158/22	
30/10 interstate [1] 96/19	jumps [1] 42/1	169/12 170/12 170/24
30/10 interstate [1] 96/19 Intervals [2] 140/2 143/14	jumps [1] 42/1 June [1] 29/15	169/12 170/12 170/24 known [3] 11/23 12/4 54/24
30/10 interstate [1] 96/19 Intervals [2] 140/2 143/14 introduce [2] 12/12 23/17	jumps [1] 42/1 June [1] 29/15 jurisdictions [1] 48/6	169/12 170/12 170/24 known [3] 11/23 12/4 54/24 knows [4] 26/8 137/15 159/7
30/10 interstate [1] 96/19 Intervals [2] 140/2 143/14 introduce [2] 12/12 23/17 introductory [1] 39/10	jumps [1] 42/1 June [1] 29/15 jurisdictions [1] 48/6 just [78] 3/1 4/23 9/22 28/19	169/12 170/12 170/24 known [3] 11/23 12/4 54/24 knows [4] 26/8 137/15 159/7 167/17
30/10 interstate [1] 96/19 Intervals [2] 140/2 143/14 introduce [2] 12/12 23/17	jumps [1] 42/1 June [1] 29/15 jurisdictions [1] 48/6 just [78] 3/1 4/23 9/22 28/19	169/12 170/12 170/24 known [3] 11/23 12/4 54/24 knows [4] 26/8 137/15 159/7
30/10 interstate [1] 96/19 Intervals [2] 140/2 143/14 introduce [2] 12/12 23/17 introductory [1] 39/10	jumps [1] 42/1 June [1] 29/15 jurisdictions [1] 48/6 just [78] 3/1 4/23 9/22 28/19	169/12 170/12 170/24 known [3] 11/23 12/4 54/24 knows [4] 26/8 137/15 159/7 167/17

Κ 52/15 52/15 Korea [2] Kraft [1] 163/19 Kramer [1] 136/12 KUTTER [2] 2/11 3/1 \mathbf{L} lack [2] 11/4 143/12 lacking [1] 86/24 ladies [1] 13/7 lady [1] 159/3 Lake [6] 42/25 45/13 79/18 80/1 80/11 116/2 Lakeland [3] 122/5 122/7 122/13 land [20] 11/20 13/9 13/12 38/4 39/7 69/9 69/24 70/5 70/17 71/4 71/9 71/15 71/21 72/9 72/12 94/18 100/25 102/9 112/12 119/3 landlord [1] 141/9 **landscaped** [1] 91/21 **landscaping** [2] 19/2 38/15 lane [20] 28/6 28/8 28/10 29/9 29/18 29/21 29/25 30/2 30/7 31/5 31/10 33/2 33/8 35/16 35/17 35/19 35/25 84/17 91/19 118/6 lanes [7] 29/21 30/6 30/15 31/9 75/21 75/23 84/12 language [3] 39/25 120/16 127/13 large [10] 9/5 46/22 48/10 76/13 79/9 101/13 116/16 119/25 123/10 167/12 101/7 112/6 147/25 largest [3] Larry [2] 158/18 166/21 **last [13]** 4/15 5/19 29/25 50/10 64/1 85/9 85/10 85/23 96/16 109/8 110/21 154/9 170/2 **late [2]** 30/12 95/7 later [5] 11/17 11/18 20/15 88/1 89/11 **latest [1]** 20/17 Law [3] 88/14 102/5 102/6 laws [1] 173/9 lawyers [1] 100/3 **layout [1]** 40/11 **LBI [1]** 64/6 **lead [5]** 3/13 4/13 9/11 68/10 144/12leadership [4] 54/16 54/24 55/7 55/10 **leads** [1] 86/7 **leakage [1]** 42/3 **leaking [1]** 41/19 **leap [1]** 90/1 **learn [1]** 164/6 **learned** [2] 61/3 129/8 **lease [1]** 44/2 least [4] 72/14 117/9 124/4 166/4 leave [4] 53/8 122/24 149/25 166/17 leaving [2] 53/3 143/4 Lee [1] 80/6 left [13] 17/16 22/9 26/24 30/7 30/12 53/19 110/25 122/9 122/10 137/21 159/20 163/1

164/23 **left-turn [2]** 30/7 30/12 legal [1] 6/25 length [8] 74/24 76/20 77/3 79/2 80/16 81/8 141/7 171/23 lengthened [1] 81/3 Lens [1] 154/1 lenses [1] 148/3 Leonard's [1] 161/10 less [2] 76/2 161/3 **lessen [1]** 139/13 let [4] 12/12 85/7 127/15 128/9 let's [20] 14/3 19/22 21/7 21/16 23/2 43/24 65/9 88/13 98/13 98/13 107/16 110/23 112/20 113/25 128/8 150/9 159/10 159/18 160/15 160/17 **letter [8]** 56/8 56/12 61/19 74/16 77/24 78/6 78/15 79/20 letters [5] 56/5 56/17 82/16 121/1 128/21 **level [14]** 21/3 21/15 44/20 79/15 82/2 82/23 94/18 103/12 **lives [4]** 77/14 79/23 121/19 103/17 103/21 108/11 129/15 131/22 131/24 leveled [3] 16/12 16/15 16/22 Lewisboro [1] 76/16 Lexington [5] 32/24 121/17 121/20 159/15 173/13 **liability [2]** 141/14 169/8 **LIAISON [1]** 2/9 **library [2]** 6/8 127/22 **licensed** [4] 13/10 23/20 38/19 106/15 **lieu [1]** 22/3 life [4] 60/10 98/6 163/9 164/12 Lifestyle [1] 165/2 light [7] 14/7 18/2 67/21 76/7 94/9 94/23 174/17 lighting [4] 94/4 94/7 95/2 102/20 **lightly [1]** 151/10 lights [1] 75/25 **like [55]** 3/9 7/5 11/6 13/4 19/6 19/8 23/16 26/1 37/11 38/6 38/12 40/1 40/6 42/18 43/20 45/1 49/25 50/13 51/9 53/10 53/11 55/18 58/8 59/9 59/13 64/16 67/8 73/5 73/9 88/1 94/17 95/14 97/22 106/13 108/10 112/21 115/13 115/14 119/16 122/4 123/11 123/11 126/13 129/10 146/6 149/7 153/13 159/10 159/22 160/3 161/7 163/25 164/10 166/3 176/1 **liked [2]** 166/14 166/16 likely [4] 36/5 80/17 81/2 81/14 **Likewise [1]** 155/12 **limit [5]** 8/15 9/6 54/1 93/10 128/12limited [2] 16/7 89/21 limiting [1] 74/7 line [6] 16/10 25/3 105/12 105/12 139/23 149/12 **lineal [1]** 15/18 Linens [1] 124/21 lines [2] 22/8 143/20

link [1] 129/19 lions [2] 112/15 174/13 **liquor [1]** 154/25 LISA [1] 2/10 **list [15]** 7/21 10/13 10/19 68/19 117/1 146/3 147/19 148/13 148/15 149/3 149/6 150/4 151/14 151/23 152/9 **listed** [10] 69/2 149/2 151/13 152/1 152/1 152/5 152/7 152/14 155/1 155/17 **listen [2]** 53/15 106/21 **listened** [1] 157/10 **listening [3]** 8/2 160/22 168/6 **literally** [1] 43/1 little [15] 15/23 20/9 26/2 61/22 64/2 66/24 74/3 74/5 91/10 98/15 117/12 128/21 140/18 157/12 158/6 **live [11]** 61/3 85/21 88/4 88/5 96/11 111/20 116/6 122/5 167/14 172/13 174/14 lived [3] 67/6 129/4 164/20 161/5 **living [4]** 24/17 95/17 145/18 163/23 **load [1]** 17/11 loading [2] 17/5 17/10 local [14] 10/25 49/20 51/9 129/14 130/16 135/12 135/18 135/21 138/8 149/20 149/23 150/3 152/2 156/12 locally [1] 59/1 **located** [16] 8/9 15/7 15/24 16/23 17/7 17/21 19/20 21/21 25/11 49/19 70/17 76/21 77/5 79/4 103/7 140/8 location [16] 30/6 30/13 34/2 49/18 52/18 61/20 63/6 63/15 63/16 64/16 69/19 80/10 85/15 125/2 136/10 176/5 locations [9] 34/3 46/20 62/10 62/23 70/16 80/25 81/1 135/16 144/1 Locksley [1] 75/4 **log [1]** 90/11 Logging [2] 146/9 146/22 logic [1] 90/1 London [2] 38/15 38/16 long [15] 37/6 50/16 57/20 61/25 62/19 63/3 63/13 64/7 64/10 74/4 86/1 94/24 138/15 143/15 146/3 **longer [9]** 33/1 74/3 74/5 79/6 80/19 103/21 103/22 130/19 130/25 **look [35]** 6/7 10/18 14/3 19/4 19/6 19/8 19/15 24/6 28/17 36/15 36/16 36/25 39/16 41/4 49/17 58/9 58/10 58/14 62/14 65/9 103/25 104/8 109/20 112/2 114/1 125/9 127/21 137/9 149/1 150/9 151/24 159/9 165/21 170/24 171/3 **looked** [15] 23/6 25/23 26/7 29/5 40/18 41/6 41/9 41/12 42/21 42/23 60/25 105/2 105/14 165/22 171/22 **looking [11]** 26/16 33/17 34/7 35/22 53/22 53/23 62/4 62/5

т. looking... [3] 115/13 157/5 157/5 **looks [1]** 148/23 LORRAINE [1] 2/12 **Los [1]** 163/24 **lose [1]** 64/21 **loser [1]** 65/15 lost [1] 51/21 8/22 24/16 24/24 lot [38] 26/13 26/13 26/14 27/15 36/17 36/24 51/24 53/15 62/3 66/5 100/7 100/7 100/8 100/8 105/17 106/4 106/5 107/25 111/8 118/3 119/12 127/17 130/16 134/16 140/23 157/3 157/3 157/23 157/25 159/23 160/3 166/12 168/24 169/10 173/25 lots [2] 90/3 139/16 Lou [4] 79/17 82/18 146/10 158/21Louie [1] 158/20 love [8] 88/13 88/17 90/25 110/9 154/10 162/18 162/20 162/21 lower [1] 34/16 lowering [1] 97/7 lowest [2] 51/3 51/11 **LTD [1]** 1/23 luck [1] 174/3 lucky [1] 162/24 Μ made [21] 5/3 6/5 11/11 11/15 24/20 54/23 69/7 76/8 76/10 76/19 77/11 77/19 83/6 97/2 103/13 103/14 103/20 119/12 127/20 140/20 141/4 Madison [1] 162/7 Mahopac [2] 76/18 127/22 **mail [1]** 53/23 main [11] 16/10 17/7 17/15 17/17 17/21 26/18 34/7 133/6 140/11 140/22 165/21 mainly [1] 145/22 maintained [1] 89/17 maintenance [3] 21/1 141/4 141/12 major [17] 57/25 59/13 60/24 62/21 86/7 100/21 102/15 102/19 105/25 107/20 123/15 129/18 147/2 148/4 153/25 154/24 168/17 majority [2] 46/22 48/10 make [39] 3/17 3/22 3/23 4/23 7/4 8/11 8/12 9/7 11/8 17/16 19/12 32/20 52/23 57/12 62/8 68/16 81/18 89/1 93/21 101/25 107/8 119/9 119/19 120/17 120/24 121/16 121/22 122/9 128/14 130/4 132/18 132/20 132/22 138/5 142/21 158/11 167/24 172/17 176/11 **makers [1]** 48/4 makes [5] 94/24 112/17 130/25 139/25 154/19 making [6] 6/22 31/10 55/20 57/25 136/19 170/25 mall [6] 49/21 59/14 124/6

125/8 155/18 157/21 man [1] 79/23 management [4] 15/13 20/1 20/3 20/18 manager [1] 50/2 **managers [1]** 51/18 Manahawkin [5] 64/2 64/3 64/4 64/5 64/11 manner [4] 6/25 54/14 84/23 87/13 manpower [1] 78/9 manufacturers [1] 123/15 many [39] 5/19 9/10 11/2 15/6 20/12 20/12 23/5 23/5 24/15 40/9 51/25 67/7 67/8 68/8 74/25 75/14 77/9 77/21 88/12 91/8 92/19 98/6 103/10 121/1 123/22 130/1 130/10 130/10 134/3 134/5 134/22 135/4 135/12 135/12 135/13 143/24 149/4 155/17 165/5 **map [4]** 49/17 69/15 70/20 162/11 Maple [2] 58/17 58/20 70/8 March [1] March 2012 [1] 70/8 Marie [3] 115/20 128/18 159/10 market [16] 40/19 40/22 41/1 41/2 41/4 44/23 44/24 49/4 59/17 62/25 104/14 150/11 152/2 152/18 154/23 155/10 marketing [1] 126/25 marry [2] 88/18 88/19 Mascioli [3] 146/10 158/16 160/20 mass [1] 11/20 **massive [1]** 129/17 **master [4]** 13/23 67/23 98/23 145/19 **match [1]** 29/9 **matching** [1] 35/14 **math [1]** 98/16 **matter [5]** 54/19 68/17 68/18 70/23 95/15 **matters [1]** 116/21 Max [2] 65/13 155/17 may [22] 8/15 38/16 43/21 43/21 44/1 44/2 52/9 54/20 54/21 88/14 97/1 118/9 119/15 120/12 120/13 122/22 124/23 144/4 159/20 165/1 165/19 169/7 maybe [3] 146/15 154/18 160/20 McDonalds [2] 26/21 29/20 McMahon [5] 77/23 78/4 78/14 79/7 82/18 me [21] 8/3 12/12 53/21 61/1 64/2 68/10 70/1 78/20 88/17 96/22 100/12 113/11 115/16 115/23 128/9 132/6 146/18 153/5 159/3 164/23 170/1 Meadobrook [1] 63/13 meal [2] 153/10 153/12 **mean [10]** 3/16 41/20 61/16 67/12 118/22 120/22 124/7 136/8 150/5 160/4 **meaningful [1]** 144/20 means [5] 4/22 41/21 97/10 150/16 151/4 **measures [1]** 4/12 **mechanism [1]** 141/5

medical [2] 124/8 147/6 medics [1] 148/1 medium [2] 137/2 137/2 137/24 meet [3] 20/18 51/23 137/18 meeting [22] 3/21 3/24 6/24 9/4 24/11 65/22 67/18 67/22 67/24 68/4 68/6 69/22 70/15 71/3 106/19 125/22 170/2 174/21 174/24 175/4 175/11 176/3 **meetings [1]** 68/5 **meets [1]** 5/25 member [17] 2/4 2/5 2/6 2/7 2/8 7/17 38/21 111/24 111/24 117/5 117/7 124/3 132/7 145/6 147/21 160/2 165/7 members [16] 13/7 23/23 53/1 53/7 55/10 58/18 59/12 60/6 93/11 99/14 126/24 127/14 142/20 143/11 145/5 145/25 membership [7] 57/3 60/7 60/8 93/9 127/1 136/9 136/12 **memo [1]** 91/3 mention [6] 49/22 71/21 71/25 72/8 147/14 152/11 mentioned [6] 6/18 39/9 86/13 135/10 137/8 145/20 mentions [4] 78/14 83/20 83/24 85/14 merchandise [2] 13/16 123/18 merchandiser [1] 124/3 merchandisers [1] 123/16 merchants [1] 155/1 **merging [1]** 90/2 methodology [1] 108/19 Mexico [1] 52/15 microphone [1] 49/25 micropool [1] 20/22 middle [8] 41/9 41/14 41/25 75/2 95/22 118/6 122/7 162/12 might [6] 47/17 75/9 79/5 118/15 167/6 176/5 mile [11] 41/8 41/16 41/19 44/25 70/18 76/3 85/21 116/18 116/19 136/23 141/22 miles [3] 41/10 42/1 162/13 Milford [1] 136/2 Miller [5] 99/8 99/15 99/19 106/1 109/24 million [29] 27/25 33/19 33/22 33/23 34/1 41/18 41/21 42/3 46/5 46/12 46/17 46/21 48/7 58/1 62/25 63/10 112/23 113/3 113/14 113/15 113/18 113/19 114/14 129/22 130/7 134/11 138/7 151/3 171/10 millions [2] 151/5 171/8 Millpond [4] 172/11 172/14 174/2 174/13 **mind [3]** 9/7 85/18 112/20 minimum [3] 7/9 48/2 87/20 **minor [1]** 11/22 minute [3] 80/8 138/14 146/16 minutes [19] 8/17 8/18 9/7 10/16 53/2 53/18 54/2 74/3 74/6 74/8 75/10 78/17 79/6 80/19 107/10 109/1 115/25 125/20 139/1 mispronounce [1] 60/18 missing [1] 29/6 misspeaking [1] 170/15

Μ 154/19 170/25 mistake [2] **mitigate [1]** 4/12 **mitigated [1]** 104/12 mitigation [2] 75/19 142/3 mix [2] 98/25 102/1 mixed [2] 40/5 89/21 **mixed-use** [1] 40/5 mixture [1] 114/18 Mobile [1] 25/11 model [1] 108/22 models [1] 136/21 modifications [3] 31/11 34/6 35/24 Mohansic [3] 31/1 31/14 35/16 Mohegan [10] 42/24 44/18 45/12 Mr. George [2] 111/13 115/18 67/2 79/18 80/1 80/11 88/4 116/2 121/15 Mohican [1] 125/10 mom [1] 132/15 moment [2] 39/2 41/17 99/9 110/6 110/8 Monaco [3] Monday [2] 91/22 93/2 money [17] 37/8 53/10 57/13 90/8 120/17 121/25 129/13 129/17 130/15 130/16 131/25 132/20 132/20 157/6 174/6 174/8 174/14 moneys [3] 100/2 100/7 113/12 month [4] 4/16 5/19 46/7 132/2 much [36] 18/3 32/2 36/5 50/4 months [4] 5/12 5/17 70/9 70/11 **moot [1]** 167/6 more [52] 8/22 9/16 13/20 31/12 36/24 39/14 49/7 50/4 51/6 51/7 57/2 63/24 67/25 68/22 68/25 71/16 71/16 71/17 74/19 78/23 80/7 80/12 81/14 81/17 84/24 84/25 85/25 95/25 97/5 98/16 106/6 107/1 107/8 107/10 130/10 148/12 148/16 149/19 151/2 151/24 152/21 156/16 157/23 160/12 161/3 164/4 164/4 166/23 169/18 172/8 175/25 176/13 Moreover [1] 96/1 morning [4] 108/4 111/5 111/6 122/12 mortgages [1] 154/3 Moses [1] 13/23 Moskowitz [3] 66/25 67/6 74/12 most [25] 9/8 14/4 16/25 19/24 20/7 21/17 31/24 38/23 41/16 63/6 65/5 94/8 99/20 101/8 105/16 121/5 123/15 129/8 137/17 150/22 152/8 154/12 156/25 158/4 167/3 mostly [1] 123/20 motel [2] 14/12 19/17 motion [3] 175/14 175/18 175/23 **motor** [1] 147/11 motto [1] 52/19 Mount [1] 76/23 Mountain [12] 26/19 27/12 28/2 28/9 29/18 30/11 36/8 39/20 91/14 99/25 102/1 122/6 **mounting** [1] 94/4 Ν move [4] 24/21 33/3 56/4 87/12 moved [2] 116/11 159/15

Proceedings 33/25 moves [1] moving [3] 58/14 125/4 165/14 Mr [10] 24/20 39/8 55/12 58/16 67/2 87/21 106/1 134/16 156/20 172/23 Mr. [21] 13/22 24/8 25/10 61/19 64/25 66/25 95/11 99/14 109/24 111/13 115/18 115/18 115/23 133/25 138/20 144/25 161/24 166/21 172/23 174/23 176/2 Mr. Bill [1] 138/20 Mr. Breslin [2] 13/22 24/8 Mr. Buehl [1] 144/25 Mr. Chairman [4] 99/14 115/23 174/23 176/2 Mr. Hansen [1] 115/18 Mr. Jay [1] 64/25 Mr. Larry [1] 166/21 Mr. Miller [1] 109/24 Mr. Panayotou [1] 25/10 Mr. Paul [1] 66/25 Mr. Pescante [1] 133/25 Mr. Popovic [1] 172/23 Mr. Primavera [1] 161/24 Mr. Primavera's [1] 61/19 Mr. Steve [1] 95/11 **Mrs [1]** 151/9 Ms [2] 74/8 132/10 50/8 61/2 63/24 66/13 84/25 85/9 86/5 87/14 88/18 90/9 99/6 111/18 116/5 116/6 127/25 128/1 131/1 131/10 133/11 135/25 136/10 140/3 143/14 144/24 146/15 148/16 165/16 172/2 173/5 174/6 174/10 176/8 multi [2] 37/17 58/1 multi-disciplinary [1] 37/17 multi-million [1] 58/1 **multiple [1]** 5/17 multiply [1] 114/11 municipal [2] 47/5 47/15 municipalities [1] 24/2 muscle [1] 148/17 must [7] 54/23 55/2 59/5 84/9 102/9 141/3 141/5 **my [75]** 11/5 11/6 16/5 37/15 38/10 39/6 48/24 49/24 50/10 51/21 53/23 58/19 58/20 67/5 77/1 78/21 80/8 80/23 81/6 81/20 82/14 84/6 85/10 85/23 88/3 88/5 88/17 95/7 95/16 98/22 99/11 99/14 99/19 104/5 105/7 106/17 107/1 109/7 110/7 111/19 116/8 122/7 131/25 132/12 138/21 138/24 139/2 145/3 146/16 148/2 149/1 152/3 154/9 156/1 159/3 159/25 160/1 160/4 160/8 160/19 162/5 162/14 162/18 162/24 164/1 164/1 164/11 164/13 164/20 164/24 165/1 165/1 166/8 172/12 174/5 myriad [1] 37/24 myself [2] 61/22 111/2 name [15] 37/15 50/10 58/19

194 67/5 88/3 95/16 99/15 110/7 111/19 132/12 138/21 145/3 146/19 160/19 168/19 namely [2] 38/3 40/15 narrow [2] 43/4 145/15 Nassau [3] 63/8 63/9 63/10 **nation [1]** 148/1 **national [1]** 163/17 **nature [2]** 109/10 109/12 near [9] 21/12 26/21 26/25 29/1 29/19 30/24 70/2 77/19 84/14 **nearby [1]** 86/11 nearest [3] 53/4 75/5 140/7 necessarily [4] 40/20 86/9 119/23 123/24 necessary [4] 6/21 40/22 98/12 129/18 **neck [5]** 25/19 27/19 30/23 34/8 35/7 necks [2] 28/12 36/20 need [24] 8/15 9/16 10/17 11/16 12/4 15/1 15/4 22/12 33/15 36/14 64/19 68/20 78/9 79/12 81/24 83/3 95/1 122/15 123/3 123/25 126/5 127/2 138/13 169/18 **needed [10]** 24/23 32/23 33/1 69/14 76/1 82/25 83/12 83/14 83/15 124/19 **needs** [7] 104/12 113/1 119/9 122/21 142/17 144/15 144/16 **negative** [7] 4/9 65/7 146/2 150/15 151/1 160/22 171/7 **negatives** [2] 62/16 169/1 neighborhood [3] 30/3 145/12 152/3neighboring [1] 129/19 neighbors [2] 38/11 116/17 7/16 neither [1] **net [1]** 41/4 **neutral [1]** 55/9 never [5] 22/7 61/7 110/22 122/25 125/20 new [36] 1/8 1/24 7/15 10/24 20/11 26/5 31/18 37/18 48/13 49/16 63/1 63/16 67/12 68/18 83/13 88/20 102/4 102/6 110/25 115/10 120/7 124/25 126/10 136/1 141/8 141/17 162/12 162/13 162/18 163/12 169/14 169/16 170/11 170/14 170/15 171/21 newly [1] 142/6 News [1] 6/14 **next [51]** 3/2 3/21 10/9 10/22 13/14 16/16 19/3 19/14 19/22 21/7 21/16 22/19 23/2 26/6 27/9 28/16 29/15 29/22 30/8 30/16 33/24 35/11 39/5 40/16 40/18 42/14 45/17 46/25 47/11 48/2 53/21 55/12 65/10 66/23 73/22 95/10 99/8 109/21 110/6 111/12 112/6 115/19 131/17 146/9 146/11 158/23 165/23 174/18 174/21 174/24 175/3 **nice [4]** 7/6 13/2 58/13 111/7 Nick [4] 12/13 13/4 13/8 31/17 night [5] 86/2 91/23 93/2 172/9 176/13 nightmare [2] 145/18 145/24

	Proceedings	195
N	60/17 63/7 78/19 79/8 80/23	87/4 93/7 95/3 97/6 113/21
nine [6] 63/18 67/3 114/5	92/5 92/11 92/17 93/11 93/15 93/24 114/11 122/19 122/20	122/14 127/14 130/22 136/13 139/20 140/5 144/14 163/8
114/15 147/2 154/24	122/23 123/2 123/9 124/1	165/10 168/15 169/22
ninety [5] 63/18 71/18 113/16 137/1 148/20	126/22 128/20 129/6 129/7 135/11 139/12 139/23 139/23	open [9] 3/21 10/12 106/19 106/25 107/4 124/19 130/2
ninety-eight [1] 148/20	142/4 143/2 143/7 143/13	161/10 174/20
ninety-three [2] 113/16 137/1	145/16 147/16 150/16 150/19	opened [2] 36/17 163/16
ninth [1] 84/6 nitrates [3] 97/19 98/1 98/3	151/1 151/16 151/16 156/9 168/7 171/4 174/19	opening [1] 164/14 opens [1] 126/23
nitrogen [2] 97/18 97/25	numbers [2] 112/13 168/24	operate [1] 103/17
no [50] 12/18 15/12 19/6 20/3 23/11 23/14 30/12 47/1 54/25	numerous [1] 149/19 nursery [2] 14/14 14/14	operates [1] 13/3 operating [1] 103/11
55/3 64/13 65/24 80/7 85/25	0	operating [1] 33/20
93/12 93/14 95/15 105/2	-	operation [1] 108/12
109/16 109/17 109/17 115/1 115/1 117/16 117/17 125/16	Oak [2] 42/25 44/18 objectives [1] 91/9	operational [1] 134/8 operations [2] 88/23 97/13
129/9 130/19 130/25 131/9	obtained [1] 83/1	operator [1] 61/18
133/4 133/17 134/18 135/22 137/7 140/5 142/13 143/18	obvious [1] 71/1 obviously [10] 8/21 18/5 19/16	opinion [4] 45/3 68/18 95/16 160/22
145/19 152/11 155/6 158/16	20/19 45/25 47/1 49/17 128/14	opportunities [1] 18/15
158/21 159/10 160/12 169/10	153/10 158/3	opportunity [13] 4/19 6/19
171/6 171/10 172/25 173/9 no-build [1] 105/2	occupancy [1] 92/23 occupied [5] 45/11 62/21	7/11 8/13 9/2 40/8 57/7 57/8 57/16 59/4 60/16 69/12 129/13
nobody [3] 106/20 153/23 164/6	104/22 105/10 121/15	opposed [1] 175/23
noise [5] 23/12 23/13 23/15 72/23 87/19	occupy [1] 52/12 occur [2] 18/6 31/24	opposing [1] 66/7
non [1] 126/24	occurring [1] 70/14	opposite [1] 35/17 opposition [2] 60/6 65/8
non-members [1] 126/24	occurs [1] 171/19	ops [1] 112/8
none [3] 143/18 154/25 155/14 north [14] 1/24 16/19 38/25	October [3] 1/9 175/16 175/20 October 29 [2] 175/16 175/20	optical [2] 148/4 154/1 optimistic [1] 145/24
41/12 41/14 42/5 76/15 83/21	off [13] 15/14 21/10 27/16	orange [1] 35/13
84/13 89/15 99/9 122/10 131/2 137/7	27/23 28/9 30/7 31/25 46/19 55/18 64/2 113/11 127/9	order [9] 8/10 16/22 24/21 27/24 68/20 82/22 84/21
northbound [3] 84/1 140/4	127/21	136/19 138/5
143/1	offering [2] 62/7 62/10	orderly [1] 103/6
northeast [2] 15/24 50/1 northern [2] 63/12 123/1	offers [4] 119/7 122/2 126/19 154/3	ordinance [1] 112/1 organization [2] 54/14 59/8
northwest [1] 149/17	office [12] 15/19 19/2 50/12	organizations [4] 56/11 135/22
nose [1] 98/4 noses [1] 130/9	65/12 89/18 104/21 119/18 119/18 120/2 120/4 120/23	136/1 136/3 organized [1] 9/9
not [168]	163/16	oriented [4] 100/23 101/2
not written [1] 171/6 note [5] 4/23 6/11 68/25 93/4	officers [2] 79/13 83/8 official [1] 142/21	101/8 101/14 original [1] 48/24
112/3		Ossining [1] 137/23
noted [6] 4/24 66/18 66/20	often [4] 120/3 129/12 129/16	other [60] 15/17 23/5 25/5
128/5 128/7 176/14 nothing [2] 32/17 57/13	129/22 oh [6] 10/21 23/2 36/13 93/14	25/21 28/6 32/3 34/3 42/7 42/19 44/9 49/5 49/21 50/5
notice [5] 6/12 6/14 85/13	158/21 166/1	51/20 51/23 52/3 58/12 62/18
97/21 175/6 noticed [1] 131/20	oil [3] 150/23 152/4 152/6 okay [22] 4/5 16/18 21/17 34/9	63/16 70/18 77/6 78/25 79/2 79/11 79/11 80/14 80/24 81/1
November [1] 5/7	34/13 36/17 36/19 36/21 53/20	81/9 81/9 81/23 86/21 87/5
now [66] 12/12 17/8 19/3 19/16		96/24 103/24 105/7 112/11
26/15 29/8 29/24 30/11 30/20 30/22 31/6 31/9 32/5 32/16	138/19 146/24 159/18 161/11 167/18 171/9 171/22 171/24	117/16 117/25 118/17 118/20 118/25 122/22 123/22 124/10
33/10 34/3 34/8 35/10 36/7	old [16] 12/10 14/12 16/7	130/24 135/9 137/16 139/13
36/15 42/6 43/11 45/7 45/9 47/9 49/13 52/9 61/24 62/20	17/22 19/17 21/22 26/23 28/23 29/4 66/9 71/23 125/3 125/17	140/19 147/17 149/10 150/25 152/5 155/4 158/4 159/15
65/9 66/16 70/22 72/3 75/7	146/8 146/22 163/14	161/7 162/23 166/1
88/1 91/1 93/21 100/14 101/6 102/2 103/23 104/18 104/23	Olivia [1] 146/20 omissions [2] 152/16 156/10	other thing [1] 166/1
102/2 $103/23$ $104/18$ $104/23114/4$ $114/11$ $115/17$ $118/9$	on-site [1] 135/16	others [8] 4/16 55/22 55/23 57/1 119/16 123/11 155/21
119/4 124/23 124/24 126/14	once [8] 25/20 46/9 47/11	168/12
129/5 134/12 140/14 158/13 164/6 167/6 169/16 171/4	126/4 131/7 134/8 153/22 166/17	otherwise [1] 55/11 our [96]
173/8 173/19 173/20 174/7	one [103]	out [46] 3/10 11/7 11/18 12/2
175/1 175/7 176/10 nowhere [1] 70/2	one-lane [1] 91/19 ongoing [2] 97/8 141/4	17/12 17/20 18/11 26/14 27/6 27/22 29/13 30/3 35/16 41/19
nuclear [1] 85/22	only [29] 18/12 22/1 23/25	44/10 45/7 45/16 45/18 51/24
number [49] 13/15 13/17 22/10	31/19 35/7 64/4 64/10 71/22	54/11 56/3 65/8 74/12 89/1
34/13 38/21 38/22 44/23 53/24	73/17 75/7 78/18 81/11 82/11	92/20 96/5 96/22 107/13

	Proceedings	196
0	parkland [1] 89/23	134/13 137/3
	Parkside [3] 26/25 28/3 75/22 parkway [22] 11/23 18/13 26/20	percent [21] 21/14 50/25 51/1
121/14 122/15 123/18 124/14	27/13 28/2 28/9 29/18 30/11	98/14 112/4 112/8 112/9
124/15 124/20 124/22 125/9	36/1 36/2 36/7 36/8 63/12	112/10 112/11 112/13 119/2
127/13 130/8 137/10 139/20	63/12 63/13 84/10 89/16 94/20	
156/12 159/20 159/22 outdated [1] 136/21		<pre>percentage [2] 48/16 155/25 perception [1] 94/19</pre>
outer [1] 41/13	part [19] 6/16 13/13 13/25	perfect [1] 150/10
outline [1] 91/4	18/4 22/10 22/22 24/5 25/25	perfectly [2] 153/1 163/16
outside [3] 42/4 42/8 131/25		perhaps [2] 15/5 154/11
outstanding [1] 100/12 over [29] 5/12 13/11 14/1	73/17 90/8 95/20 116/5 130/13 135/12	period [5] 4/18 10/2 10/6 34/11 71/15
14/18 15/8 15/15 16/4 23/4	part-time [3] 95/20 130/13	periods [2] 108/4 109/12
24/13 25/23 32/2 33/23 34/1	135/12	permanent [3] 46/10 46/19
	participate [2] 51/2 126/9	134/21
81/4 95/23 111/22 114/25 117/4 119/17 122/5 123/1	particular [5] 40/15 42/18 44/1 45/6 74/13	permissible [1] 94/4 permission [1] 55/6
123/5 123/8 130/9		permit [5] 40/15 89/11 96/3
overall [7] 45/19 48/6 59/24	parties [5] 3/23 6/5 66/19	102/20 102/24
73/18 98/24 101/23 148/18	128/6 153/24	permits [1] 88/11
overflow [1] 109/16 overlap [1] 149/9		permitting [1] $24/4$
overlay [1] 149/9	partnership [1] 129/16 parts [1] 98/3	<pre>peroxide [2] 98/1 98/3 perplexing [1] 154/12</pre>
overload [1] 96/3	pass [8] 25/16 25/17 28/1 28/2	
overpass [3] 84/10 84/15 84/19		personal [2] 101/1 147/9
overtime [2] 78/10 78/13 overwhelming [1] 48/18	passenger [1] 31/20	personnel [9] 74/22 81/21
own [7] 5/23 33/13 112/17	past [5] 56/4 68/5 117/5 121/4 122/8	81/25 82/15 82/25 83/2 83/4 87/11 88/23
123/16 139/8 142/15 158/12		persons [2] 8/20 92/12
owned [1] 141/8	patience [1] 84/25	perspective [5] 12/25 40/13
owner [4] 110/8 156/23 156/24 158/14	Patricia [2] 10/20 53/24 patterns [1] 91/8	40/14 42/12 164/12 pervious [1] 127/19
		Pescante [1] 133/25
oxides [2] 97/18 97/25		pet [1] 148/1
oxygen [1] 98/8		<pre>petitioning [1] 65/15</pre>
ozone [2] 97/18 97/25	pay [8] 51/10 112/9 112/10 112/11 112/12 119/20 119/23	<pre>phase [6] 46/1 46/6 46/8 46/18 132/25 133/14</pre>
P	130/14	Phil [6] 16/4 23/4 23/17 23/17
p.m [6] 1/9 66/20 105/21 128/5	payers [1] 137/17	38/6 104/2
128/7 176/14		Philip [2] 12/15 23/19
<pre>pace [1] 7/6 packet [2] 147/18 149/25</pre>	payroll [1] 124/9 pays [1] 112/7	phone [1] 53/22 photo [1] 43/2
packets [1] 148/14		photograph [3] 54/10 54/13
PAGANELLI [1] 2/8	105/22 108/3 108/8 108/10	55/3
page [10] 69/2 69/15 70/21		picked [2] 159/14 162/9
73/15 73/16 147/18 154/22 155/8 155/10 155/12		picking [1] 35/13 picture [1] 108/18
pages [1] 71/18		pie [1] 112/16
paid [3] 32/16 111/6 112/5		piece [3] 29/6 114/5 114/16
Paino [1] 128/19		piles [2] 15/6 19/20
paint [1] 167/21 Panayotou [4] 12/13 13/4 13/8		pin [1] 162/10 Pine [3] 28/1 29/23 118/19
25/10		Pinewood [1] 115/11
Paneras [1] 152/7		Pino [1] 128/18
Panio [1] 115/20		pipe [1] 20/20
paper [1] 118/14 paperwork [1] 78/11	53/8 53/9 53/15 56/3 63/3 63/18 63/20 64/5 88/12 88/15	place [10] 20/10 63/1 63/11 68/24 75/19 76/2 87/6 162/13
paramedics [1] 83/10	88/19 92/17 92/19 96/11 98/9	166/17 173/19
parcel [1] 119/3		places [1] 137/25
parcels [1] 11/3	109/18 119/13 121/5 126/20	plain [2] 138/4 151/4
parent [1] 13/18 park [6] 1/24 75/1 75/2 109/18	128/12 133/12 133/24 137/11 137/12 137/18 153/8 157/4	Plains [5] 125/7 139/24 140/1 140/2 161/21
162/12 173/16		plan [46] 1/5 3/7 12/3 12/7
parked [1] 66/4	164/4 165/14 167/13 170/22	18/18 20/20 35/5 38/25 39/2
parking [23] 17/1 17/3 17/15	172/23 173/25 174/12 174/14	39/4 39/16 39/18 39/24 39/25
17/17 83/19 92/5 92/8 93/6 102/19 109/8 109/9 109/13	people's [1] 100/8	42/22 69/12 72/9 89/3 89/13
102/19 109/8 109/9 109/13	per [19] 10/13 43/12 46/12 46/21 47/3 48/7 71/13 75/18	89/15 90/23 91/6 91/17 92/1 98/23 100/4 100/17 100/19
122/24 123/2 124/2 127/17	79/7 80/19 98/3 109/2 109/2	101/4 101/12 101/15 101/18
127/23 139/16 140/22	114/12 127/2 130/1 130/4	101/25 101/25 102/6 102/8

	Proceedings	197
P	113/2 113/5 113/6 141/8	prices [1] 132/3
plan [10] 102/10 102/15	portions [1] 40/2	primarily [4] 10/3 44/19 49/19
118/21 126/14 127/6 141/20	posed [1] 74/17 position [6] 51/20 54/18 54/25	51/7
146/1 169/6 175/15 175/20		Primary [1] 5378 Primavera [3] 146/11 158/17
Planing [1] 6/19	positive [6] 5/4 45/20 49/3	161/24
planned [6] 86/9 117/18 118/4	49/23 61/12 124/13	Primavera's [1] 61/19
118/8 118/9 159/1	positives [1] 62/15	prime [2] 52/18 69/13
planner [4] 2/14 38/19 49/1	poss [1] 67/9	Principal [2] 13/8 37/16
99/16	possibility [1] 85/2	print [1] 125/17
planners [3] 38/20 45/3 100/3 planning [57] 1/2 2/8 2/10		prior [4] 14/13 55/5 59/1
2/12 2/13 3/12 3/19 5/3 5/13	19/13 61/2 64/24 96/7 146/15 156/18 167/17 167/18	157/10 private [8] 24/1 59/14 114/19
5/18 5/23 6/8 7/13 7/16 7/25	possibly [3] 49/14 81/4 158/12	
9/20 9/25 10/4 13/7 37/17	posted [3] 6/14 67/22 69/15	141/15
37/21 40/13 40/14 55/19 56/25		pro [1] 8/1
58/11 58/19 62/13 65/18 67/9	51/15 65/15 77/6 91/11 141/13	probably [7] 16/14 20/14 20/16
68/2 68/15 72/5 73/7 74/16	143/23 153/14	74/2 105/15 123/8 137/13
87/25 90/13 90/14 90/17 95/14		problem [9] 25/19 26/19 61/3
99/4 99/20 100/11 102/18	Pound [1] 76/17	62/22 118/18 127/2 128/22
102/25 106/18 106/25 107/3	power [1] 79/23	142/3 171/19
116/12 116/24 117/11 117/13 119/8 119/9 142/21 145/25		problems [13] 24/12 24/15
119/8 119/9 142/21 145/25 176/9	<pre>practice [1] 37/20 practiced [1] 85/11</pre>	24/17 24/18 26/15 26/17 27/2 33/6 35/8 58/5 58/6 144/7
plans [6] 19/2 28/25 38/23	practiced [1] 85/11 practices [1] 157/2	33/6 35/8 58/5 58/6 144/7 166/6
62/5 119/10 155/7	pray [2] 104/19 119/1	procedure [1] 85/11
planting [1] 94/9	pre [1] 108/7	proceed [3] 3/5 6/24 21/15
played [1] 120/2	pre-commutation [1] 108/7	proceeding [1] 177/9
Plaza [5] 26/22 28/1 28/20	precedent [1] 64/13	process [6] 6/17 6/22 7/1 7/2
28/23 31/16	precious [1] 130/2	52/10 167/16
	predict [1] 123/2	processing [2] 3/11 78/12
9/24 27/10 29/15 29/22 30/8 30/16 40/8 85/6 85/7 85/7	predicted [1] 97/13	product [2] 149/12 150/6
92/25 107/18 127/5 127/13	<pre>prefer [1] 61/4 pregnant [1] 88/5</pre>	productive [1] 7/2 products [12] 51/25 52/1 52/4
133/8 134/2 146/2 155/3	preliminary [1] 3/22	147/10 147/11 148/4 149/5
156/15 170/15	premium [1] 11/20	149/9 151/19 151/20 155/16
pleased [2] 13/12 13/25	preparation [1] 5/21	158/9
plenty [1] 124/16		professional [7] 11/8 13/10
plowed [1] 127/24	prepared [9] 5/14 8/4 9/18	23/20 49/1 99/15 116/24 147/8
plus [8] 11/20 20/25 22/14	10/3 24/6 38/22 38/24 147/4	professionals [7] 5/20 5/24
29/21 30/6 47/23 48/18 114/3	157/11	55/20 104/1 111/10 168/7
pm [2] 1/9 66/18 point [24] 11/7 11/18 17/21	preparing [2] 37/21 37/23 Presbyterian [1] 54/5	168/8
21/12 21/24 26/16 32/22 45/7	prescribed [1] 4/17	profile [1] 137/18 profit [2] 135/21 136/6
45/15 45/16 85/4 85/22 86/10	Prescription [1] 147/6	profits [1] 136/11
93/18 93/25 100/11 109/8		program [3] 21/1 51/2 108/14
128/10 128/15 129/3 130/18		progress [2] 160/25 161/2
159/5 167/6 169/15	108/17 128/7	project [79] 3/14 8/2 10/11
pointed [1] 12/2	presentation [8] 10/10 10/12	11/2 11/9 12/15 12/23 14/3
points [8] 9/14 11/16 88/25	11/9 16/5 23/18 58/13 61/1	14/21 20/15 20/16 22/5 22/5
93/20 106/6 120/25 129/11	74/4	23/12 23/14 23/16 24/6 24/22
139/20 police [12] 75/5 77/20 77/24	presentations [1] 68/1 presented [3] 69/10 70/7 70/11	25/9 27/22 27/25 28/7 28/19 29/7 29/13 30/25 33/21 36/11
78/3 78/20 78/22 79/4 79/9	presented [5] 89/10 70/7 70/11 presenters [1] 12/13	37/13 38/18 39/8 40/17 42/10
82/8 82/12 83/8 87/10	presently [7] 18/20 82/4	45/18 46/15 47/25 50/13 55/21
policing [3] 79/7 79/9 79/16	100/16 101/10 103/11 104/17	56/2 56/24 58/15 59/16 60/7
policy [4] 39/18 39/18 52/19	104/23	60/15 68/12 75/15 77/12 78/1
91/4	presents [3] 59/4 69/11 85/1	79/21 80/2 91/12 91/13 98/22
pollutants [1] 97/21	president [4] 23/21 55/17	99/3 100/12 102/16 103/19
pollution [2] 94/23 139/14	56/15 145/4	103/24 104/10 104/10 105/4
<pre>ponder [2] 129/3 129/10 poor [1] 118/15</pre>	presidents [1] 56/16	105/5 109/10 109/12 110/12
poor [1] 118/15 pop [1] 132/15	press [1] 50/15 prestigious [1] 13/24	133/1 133/7 133/14 133/16 133/21 134/8 135/2 135/24
Popovic [1] 172/23	presumably [1] 13/24 presumably [1] 151/5	140/8 142/5 142/22 158/15
population [8] 47/18 62/24	pretax [2] 135/21 136/5	160/16 168/2
113/5 113/7 129/24 136/24	pretend [1] 57/1	project our [1] 14/21
137/22 149/16	pretty [2] 89/4 161/15	project's [2] 39/22 140/16
Pork [1] 151/9	prevent [1] 125/4	projected [1] 29/14
Port [5] 39/2 49/15 56/13	previous [1] 97/10	projects [13] 69/11 75/14 77/7
136/1 147/22	previously [2] 14/9 20/2	77/10 79/1 79/12 80/15 81/23
portion [7] 12/9 59/10 99/18	price [3] 111/4 152/4 161/21	86/22 108/9 116/17 129/7
	1	

Proceedings rather [5] 61/4 73/5 123/14 **pumped** [1] 46/13 Ρ pupil [3] 129/24 130/1 130/3 125/20 164/9 projects... [1] 144/19 purchase [2] 130/19 158/9 **Ravencrest** [2] 67/1 73/23 **prominent** [1] 54/10 purchased [1] 83/14 re [1] 142/9 promise [2] 86/4 128/24 purchases [1] 141/23 **re-routed** [1] 142/9 promised [1] 149/14 purple [2] 28/22 29/7 **reach [2]** 81/16 139/9 promote [1] 51/17 purpose [6] 3/24 4/5 55/5 69/4 **read [12]** 3/4 71/17 90/19 91/2 **promotion** [1] 164/1 85/12 100/19 91/3 92/23 92/24 111/16 146/8 pronounce [1] 131/11 purposes [1] 69/6 146/10 146/19 166/15 proper [4] 105/11 167/5 169/17 readily [1] 113/22 102/11 pursuant [1] purveyor [1] 170/3 153/25 reading [2] 9/23 89/25 ready [2] 149/25 161/10 real [9] 50/11 99/21 120/6 properly [1] 118/5 **push [1]** 69/6 property [20] 16/20 20/23 **pushed** [1] 113/11 **pusher [1]** 51/19 124/11 165/5 165/6 165/8 22/12 43/3 47/13 47/20 47/21 70/6 82/10 110/8 112/21 114/1 **pushing** [1] 98/9 165/11 173/25 114/5 114/6 114/17 118/10 put [22] 16/25 20/15 56/5 61/5 realistic [2] 136/7 148/16 118/10 119/11 127/7 130/14 65/8 71/12 71/15 71/24 101/24 realistically [2] 69/12 137/10 proposal [12] 71/9 71/23 71/23 114/7 117/9 120/16 120/20 **realize [1]** 34/25 realized [2] 24/21 33/16 72/3 72/4 72/12 72/13 89/12 123/18 125/8 129/11 130/15 90/22 91/10 93/14 174/5 142/23 154/20 156/12 162/10 realizes [1] 33/11 propose [1] 16/18 167/19 really [27] 12/9 16/3 17/9 19/21 25/1 28/19 36/18 44/21 proposed [36] 3/14 3/18 4/10 Putnam [1] 41/12 4/14 17/6 29/9 39/10 59/23 50/9 53/13 62/14 64/19 66/12 18/13 puts [1] 69/8 70/5 74/17 75/15 76/4 **putting [1]** 169/7 89/20 95/1 95/7 98/21 103/3 77/8 77/19 78/1 78/20 78/25 116/22 120/19 157/7 157/7 Q 80/10 83/19 83/22 84/5 84/16 163/4 163/13 164/21 164/22 86/21 87/5 92/17 101/6 101/22 quality [17] 3/15 13/16 14/2 164/24 20/9 21/9 23/10 23/12 65/4 131/5 133/1 139/4 139/5 Realty [2] 13/19 75/17 139/22 144/19 149/12 169/3 71/2 72/23 87/9 98/25 131/24 rear [4] 16/20 17/5 20/23 proposing [4] 31/3 90/6 101/6 132/1 132/3 132/6 161/19 26/23 109/15 que [1] 27/7 reason [7] 44/3 67/20 132/19 pros [1] 159/9 question [28] 4/25 4/25 6/17 147/23 148/22 151/25 167/23 prospective [1] 174/1 7/4 7/21 12/8 64/15 67/9 reasonable [3] 77/13 81/17 protection [2] 80/2 121/9 67/20 68/23 71/1 73/4 73/20 87/13 77/1 78/19 79/8 80/9 80/23 **providable [1]** 143/15 reasons [1] 162/23 receive [5] provide [17] 20/21 23/1 30/14 81/6 81/20 82/14 84/6 85/23 7/7 79/15 82/2 31/11 102/3 108/21 133/4 93/10 106/18 139/3 163/22 82/4 87/8 133/9 133/22 134/3 135/2 171/16 received [3] 10/5 113/19 166/9 135/9 143/20 143/22 144/2 questionable [1] 149/15 recent [1] 149/18 144/20 149/21 questions [10] 4/21 6/20 7/18 recently [1] 38/23 8/6 9/14 10/8 74/17 78/21 provided [16] 6/18 18/14 48/2 **recess [3]** 66/17 128/4 138/17 102/2 105/17 107/25 135/23 128/11 165/13 recession [1] 104/18 135/25 139/22 141/11 143/13 queues [2] 31/6 108/15 recognize [2] 59/3 86/18 144/4 150/4 151/15 152/13 quick [4] 88/25 127/11 128/2 recommend [3] 92/3 101/20 156/9 138/13 109/11 providers [3] 151/17 152/6 quicker [1] 66/24 recommendations [6] 24/10 34/4 quickly [1] 45/22 91/5 91/8 101/15 101/20 153/6 quiet [3] 13/2 124/13 145/7 provides [5] 4/8 16/25 50/6 recommended [1] 126/10 quite [6] 24/18 58/2 62/25 99/20 148/16 recommends [1] 109/9 providing [5] 18/24 22/1 22/3 70/9 89/25 158/25 reconfigured [1] 30/14 record [5] 6/11 7/23 56/6 quote [3] 101/4 134/7 148/17 31/5 142/13 **provision** [1] 141/4 quoted [1] 166/16 95/19 146/19 proximity [1] 70/17 recording [2] 7/22 68/3 R recruit [1] 51/7 **Ps [2]** 61/25 151/7 **public [50]** 1/4 3/6 5/8 6/6 Rachel [1] 115/20 recused [2] 2/11 3/1 6/15 6/16 7/7 7/10 10/1 10/6 radiological [1] 85/4 redevelopment [2] 69/6 73/3 radius [4] 41/8 41/16 44/25 reduce [2] 92/4 127/21 10/13 11/12 23/23 25/1 32/12 56/16 89/23 91/4 100/9 106/25 136/23 reduced [1] 141/24 107/4 112/9 129/17 130/12 **raise [1]** 44/20 reducing [1] 139/12 133/22 139/4 139/6 139/15 raised [1] 5/15 reduction [4] 21/11 21/14 Ramapo [1] 126/23 139/18 139/21 141/14 141/18 101/22 139/17 141/25 142/11 142/13 142/18 ramp [3] 18/17 25/16 27/16 redundant [2] 93/2 128/11 142/25 143/9 143/15 143/23 ramps [2] 30/25 31/14 **refer [1]** 69/3 ran [3] 61/24 61/25 63/4 **reference** [1] 66/12 143/25 144/3 144/8 144/17 range [3] 34/15 34/16 80/8 **referred** [1] 50/16 162/6 163/6 166/8 167/24 ranging [1] 34/5 175/15 175/19 referring [4] 69/8 69/22 77/25 **publics [1]** 4/19 ranked [1] 13/15 79/21 **published** [1] 6/13 **rapidly [1]** 46/25 **refuge [1]** 32/11 rate [4] 51/4 98/17 119/2 pull [1] 110/23 regarding [4] 54/12 79/18 139/15 pulled [1] 110/24 134/7 135/11 50/20 118/22 **Pulte [1]** 71/24 rates [2] regardless [3] 29/11 30/19

R regardless... [1] 93/13 regards [1] 89/3 region [3] 38/23 116/22 118/16 research [3] 62/5 165/19 regional [9] 12/2 12/5 13/1 16/3 34/19 39/19 50/1 50/12 118/20 registers [1] 123/21 regulation [2] 40/21 102/9 regulations [4] 20/11 43/12 48/15 88/21 **related** [1] 147/8 relates [2] 74/19 102/5 relations [3] 162/6 163/6 166/8 relationship [1] 113/6 relative [8] 43/5 43/6 43/9 149/8 152/22 153/6 153/20 154/2 relatively [1] 20/9 relevant [13] 5/9 135/16 135/22 149/6 152/10 154/13 154/16 154/18 155/2 155/19 155/21 155/25 156/3 **reliant [1]** 89/8 relief [2] 16/14 133/8 relocate [1] 120/1 remain [1] 17/24 remained [1] 113/17 remaining [2] 17/25 30/23 remarks [3] 3/22 39/10 49/24 remediate [1] 21/2 remediated [1] 15/4 remediation [2] 18/7 20/10 **remember** [7] 38/16 65/19 94/16 96/12 97/1 159/11 164/16 reminded [1] 85/2 removal [2] 141/6 141/12 **remove** [1] 35/6 removed [3] 18/10 155/8 155/11 responsibly [1] 99/5 **renew [1]** 44/2 renewed [1] 129/23 **rent [1]** 64/9 **reoccupied** [1] 45/13 73/19 repeat [1] repetitive [2] 125/25 126/1 replaced [1] 31/13 replaces [1] 101/3 **report** [13] 59/22 97/12 109/6 109/7 109/23 109/25 153/16 153/17 155/10 168/23 169/13 170/12 171/22 **reported** [1] 14/23 **reporting [1]** 78/11 reports [3] 13/16 91/13 159/22 represent [4] 24/1 54/21 68/14 170/13 representative [1] 166/10 representatives [2] 7/17 123/16 retailer [12] 1/6 33/12 51/23 represented [1] 60/11 representing [2] 106/9 106/14 **represents** [3] 60/3 101/13 113/21 reputation [1] 163/18 **request** [9] 92/8 108/20 133/20 135/1 135/8 135/23 152/17 155/22 171/25 **requests** [1] 92/1 require [3] 86/11 90/23 127/18 retained [5] 8/20 24/7 99/16 required [7] 5/5 6/17 21/4

Proceedings 40/20 92/5 92/7 150/2 requirements [1] 6/1 4/10 4/13 89/11 requires [7] 102/17 102/20 109/12 135/15 166/11 researched [1] 166/14 **reset [1]** 10/15 **residence** [1] 74/25 residences [2] 14/15 94/21 resident [13] 12/16 24/13 55/16 58/21 60/22 65/3 111/21 131/19 138/22 156/22 162/2 162/4 172/11 residential [3] 17/14 91/20 114/7 residents [17] 22/2 22/15 23/1 64/9 79/5 79/14 80/18 82/1 86/12 87/1 134/5 134/21 135/6 135/6 172/13 173/17 174/12 resides [1] 112/18 residing [1] 87/8 resources [3] 79/22 83/16 97/7 respect [14] 7/2 9/3 11/14 40/10 55/22 58/9 87/20 89/1 89/2 94/14 102/19 103/10 108/11 157/13 respectfully [4] 8/23 152/17 155/22 171/24 respond [3] 10/7 11/11 11/15 responding [1] 121/22 **response [9]** 78/14 78/17 78/20 80/7 80/9 80/24 80/25 81/7 121/12 responses [5] 10/4 11/12 11/17 90/12 90/20 responsibilities [1] 39/6 responsibility [1] 8/25 responsible [4] 3/20 38/2 50/13 172/22 rest [4] 10/6 22/14 112/16 149/16 **restaurant [1]** 164/14 restaurants [4] 75/1 101/1 157/21 163/3 restricts [1] 127/14 result [4] 141/1 141/13 141/24 144/9 retail [40] 10/25 18/4 39/19 40/6 42/19 43/4 43/22 45/2 49/8 61/23 62/4 64/22 71/8 71/10 71/17 72/2 72/9 72/18 89/9 92/9 92/24 93/8 100/25 104/21 125/6 136/22 138/3 147/2 148/17 148/20 148/24 149/14 149/20 150/3 150/19 152/2 153/3 154/23 157/20 158/1 90/4 130/21 132/16 149/8 149/23 152/22 153/21 154/13 154/16 retailers [18] 51/14 59/13 59/14 123/10 147/25 149/2 149/3 149/4 149/7 151/14 151/14 151/17 151/18 152/24 153/7 154/2 154/18 155/2 retails [1] 153/6 99/23 168/11

199 retaining [1] 55/9 **retention [1]** 50/20 retired [1] 61/23 return [1] 114/17 returned [2] 112/25 113/4 **revelation [1]** 158/25 **revenue [6]** 46/17 64/21 113/23 130/5 133/4 159/17 **revenues** [1] 110/19 review [24] 3/14 3/15 3/20 8/5 8/20 12/7 14/19 15/20 21/4 33/14 36/11 40/8 66/15 67/15 99/17 103/1 103/2 103/24 108/24 156/7 167/5 167/23 169/17 171/23 reviewing [4] 24/2 37/22 39/24 168/5 **revisions [1]** 5/18 **rezoning** [1] 70/5 **rhetorical** [1] 93/10 **RICHARD [4]** 2/3 111/19 115/14 167/11 **Richie [1]** 159/25 **riddled [1]** 152/15 **ride [1]** 143/2 **riders [2]** 141/18 141/20 **Ridge [1]** 76/17 Ridgefield [1] 76/15 **right [34]** 17/20 17/20 19/16 22/9 29/24 30/11 32/4 33/1 33/8 35/15 36/19 39/13 47/9 89/10 97/2 104/19 111/8 113/8 116/11 116/11 119/4 122/5 122/8 122/10 126/18 140/17 140/21 148/11 158/13 159/8 161/10 162/11 175/1 176/10 **right-turn [3]** 33/1 33/8 35/15 **rights [1]** 105/20 RIVERA [1] 2/7 road [52] 10/20 11/23 12/11 15/15 16/6 16/7 16/8 17/22 21/22 21/25 23/2 26/23 28/5 28/23 29/4 32/10 33/19 34/2 34/18 53/25 54/6 55/15 67/1 67/2 73/23 74/23 75/4 76/12 76/14 76/19 77/10 84/7 86/7 97/2 108/8 110/14 110/24 110/25 115/10 125/18 129/18 129/19 138/23 145/20 146/9 146/22 152/12 161/11 161/13 162/15 164/12 166/22 roads [10] 78/19 78/24 79/2 80/13 80/16 81/9 87/12 97/6 109/18 145/14 roadside [2] 91/18 100/20 roadway [2] 28/4 34/19 Robbins [1] 154/15 Robert [1] 13/23 **Robin [2]** 9/20 10/1 **ROBYN [1]** 2/14 Rochelle [2] 49/16 110/25 role [4] 24/5 35/10 35/24 144/12 Rollan [1] 131/12 Ron [2] 131/16 145/3 room [2] 16/25 88/12 Rose [3] 115/20 128/18 159/10 rotates [1] 52/5 roughly [1] 47/19 round [1] 125/22 route [80] 11/25 18/25 26/11

	Proceedings	200
R	132/9 145/8 148/11 159/2	sensors [1] 23/15
route [77] 27/7 27/12 27/17	159/10 164/7 166/8 167/3 174/2	sent [1] 7/12 sentimental [1] 38/17
29/19 29/24 31/3 36/9 40/2	saying [3] 93/16 166/17 171/2	separate [3] 17/20 30/14 90/2
42/23 54/7 59/3 63/21 63/23	says [10] 59/23 64/16 68/22	September [3] 5/2 6/3 6/13
68/8 68/9 68/13 69/6 69/18	73/14 78/15 80/7 89/15 100/19	September 24 [1] 6/3
70/19 70/21 72/18 73/2 74/23 75/9 76/3 76/7 76/8 77/3 77/7	102/4 120/9 scale [3] 18/3 51/20 91/18	septic [1] 15/2 SEQRA [12] 2/10 3/16 4/5 4/8
77/17 79/1 79/3 79/5 79/10	scattered [1] 15/8	6/1 6/17 43/13 43/19 44/22
80/4 80/14 80/21 81/8 81/12	scenery [1] 94/10	73/19 144/13 167/16
81/22 83/21 84/8 84/9 86/6	scenic [1] 94/12	serious [2] 141/19 145/9
86/9 86/18 86/22 87/7 89/15 94/12 101/15 103/8 104/25	schedule [1] 3/10 scheduled [2] 139/21 176/10	serve [3] 49/19 97/6 163/15 served [1] 111/23
117/17 118/1 118/2 118/6	school [26] 25/17 31/8 38/14	serves [1] 92/9
118/22 122/6 122/17 124/17	47/9 47/16 47/18 48/9 48/19	service [21] 22/1 23/1 42/13
125/1 125/10 126/11 127/22	57/9 57/18 75/2 75/3 85/10	48/2 51/13 65/6 87/9 103/12
131/2 137/14 137/15 140/9 140/12 140/17 140/20 142/4	85/16 108/8 114/2 114/3	103/18 103/22 108/11 117/14 140/5 143/13 143/18 144/7
140/12 140/17 140/20 142/4 145/8 145/17 145/23 173/13	114/21 120/18 121/2 121/7 121/11 122/4 122/5 122/8	140/5 143/13 143/18 144// 150/6 151/15 151/17 153/6
routed [1] 142/9	122/13	154/6
routine [1] 121/6	schools [3] 114/20 165/24	services [29] 37/25 43/7 47/6
RSCC [2] 13/13 13/18	166/2	47/15 74/21 74/21 77/4 77/21
rubber [1] 97/23 rubberized [1] 97/22	scope [3] 5/11 5/16 144/19 scoping [2] 5/8 25/25	78/8 79/7 79/16 79/22 80/3 80/20 82/3 82/7 82/13 83/15
rules [3] 11/10 125/14 125/15	Scotto [3] 166/23 172/9 172/10	
rumors [1] 51/11	screen [1] 18/19	147/11 147/17 149/5 149/9
run [7] 21/10 127/16 127/21	screening [1] 18/19	154/4 154/5
130/25 141/9 154/6 158/10 running [2] 15/14 123/20	se [2] 43/12 127/2 Sears [1] 125/9	serving [1] 80/1 session [2] 5/8 128/9
runs [1] 140/3	seasonal [1] 109/14	set [6] 3/25 5/24 7/1 21/10
rush [3] 25/14 27/16 34/15	second [9] 56/9 63/1 78/21	30/12 123/17
Ruth's [1] 163/20	110/21 132/6 148/15 153/5	sets [1] 102/24
Rye [1] 56/13	165/25 175/17	setting [2] 66/14 164/17
S	secondly [1] 45/2 section [20] 28/6 30/18 34/17	settings [1] 12/9 settle [1] 51/8
safely [1] 60/4		seven [12] 33/23 34/1 50/24
safety [6] 28/14 77/13 79/16	76/6 78/6 82/5 82/6 82/7	67/1 70/10 75/17 117/7 134/11
82/2 82/23 87/2 said [33] 29/5 31/7 32/13	83/17 83/18 84/24 102/11 102/23 134/7 135/19	139/25 143/21 162/13 174/19
33/21 35/2 38/21 39/6 61/9	sections [1] 91/4	seven million [1] 33/23 seventeen [5] 131/15 140/12
61/20 65/24 75/17 88/3 88/10	see [35] 14/7 18/20 18/22	141/21 142/12 143/4
88/25 91/1 93/23 110/23 111/1	19/17 21/11 25/15 29/19 31/7	seventh [1] 81/20
111/2 118/17 120/6 125/20 128/17 137/2 138/2 157/1		seventy [1] 113/20
158/5 159/10 165/20 170/10	52/8 53/21 56/22 57/11 66/3 96/15 96/17 96/23 112/14	seventy-eight [1] 113/20 several [15] 5/17 11/7 14/20
171/13 172/1 176/10	113/22 115/10 118/1 126/1	38/2 40/3 40/18 45/10 49/5
sake [1] 132/20	126/18 138/25 143/24 151/13	52/14 53/6 57/8 57/17 88/10
sale [2] 136/13 148/12 Salem [3] 39/1 76/16 76/16	152/24 156/19 165/5 169/13 175/1	93/20 124/18 severe [3] 172/15 172/21 173/3
	seeing [1] 168/13	severe [3] 172/15 172/21 173/3 sewage [2] 22/25 97/8
43/25 44/6 48/11 48/16 65/12	seek [1] 141/3	sewer [8] 21/20 21/21 21/24
112/24 113/3 113/13 113/23	seeks [3] 92/3 92/6 94/2	21/25 22/11 22/20 22/22 47/24
114/4 119/14 119/20 123/16 133/4 147/16 150/6 171/7	seem [4] 80/17 81/2 81/13	sewers [1] 174/7
same [19] 17/12 19/11 33/5	131/21 seemed [1] 164/19	share [4] 44/24 62/12 70/25 112/15
34/13 60/23 70/18 72/9 76/14	seen [4] 37/5 50/14 122/25	she [1] 159/7
79/15 82/2 87/9 115/5 132/19	165/1	sheet [1] 174/20
153/15 153/18 153/21 161/13	segment [1] 73/17	sheets [1] 8/9
170/5 171/12 sanitary [2] 21/20 21/21	segmentation [7] 67/11 67/13 68/14 68/21 68/24 70/25 73/21	shelves [3] 123/17 123/18 123/19
saturated [1] 150/11	sell [7] 51/25 148/10 149/4	shirts [2] 57/13 57/15
Saturday [5] 34/14 105/22	153/11 155/6 155/7 155/16	shoes [3] 142/23 155/13 174/15
108/5 140/3 143/18	sellers [1] 148/4	shoot [1] 8/16
save [2] 11/12 130/24 SAVOCA [1] 2/5	selling [1] 155/9 send [4] 9/24 116/16 116/25	shop [8] 53/2 53/8 61/10 98/12 98/12 116/7 161/2 161/22
saw [1] 110/22	123/15	shopped [1] 120/7
say [31] 4/24 6/23 8/22 23/4	sending [1] 116/23	shoppers [3] 76/15 139/7 142/1
23/9 34/8 36/13 43/24 60/4	senior [2] 89/24 130/14	shopping [15] 26/22 43/25
61/14 66/9 67/8 68/25 89/5	senior housing [1] 89/24	62/17 63/7 63/8 64/7 75/22
91/25 98/13 98/13 107/6 110/11 121/6 129/9 131/9	sense [2] 65/14 130/25 sensitive [1] 45/24	95/23 97/3 123/7 150/14 156/3 156/4 166/1 166/6
		T22/1 T00/T T00/0

	Proceedings	2
5	14/20 15/3 15/7 15/8 15/12	solutions [2] 26/17 69/13
hopping's [1] 63/9	15/18 15/25 16/1 16/6 16/9 17/23 18/15 18/17 19/21 20/4	solve [4] 33/5 58/4 58/5 61/2 some [49] 8/19 17/3 24/20 25/
hops [1] 52/21	21/13 21/18 21/19 22/1 22/2	26/2 26/3 28/17 29/16 31/10
hort [9] 10/16 11/5 64/23	22/10 22/14 22/25 25/10 27/11	
94/24 110/10 141/19 145/1	28/21 30/23 31/22 33/13 35/3	38/16 51/19 53/3 54/22 56/3
146/15 172/18	37/10 38/10 39/22 40/14 46/4	66/6 72/15 87/23 96/12 96/21
bhould [23] 13/20 58/2 62/13	46/20 47/2 62/4 70/6 71/25	99/11 106/6 108/24 112/25
65/18 68/23 71/6 73/7 89/17	77/20 80/22 83/23 84/5 84/8	114/6 119/13 122/21 128/11
96/6 108/7 112/17 116/23	84/16 96/15 96/17 100/14	129/2 129/11 130/15 132/14
119/1 120/25 121/10 123/13	103/5 131/5 133/17 135/16	138/25 149/1 151/25 154/5
127/17 140/19 143/8 144/9	139/5 139/11 139/18 139/22	155/20 157/6 157/25 163/18
144/22 155/8 155/11	140/16 141/10 142/5 142/9	164/25 165/1 165/19 168/25
houlder [2] 32/9 83/25	142/22 143/10 144/5 144/8	169/8
houlders [1] 84/12	164/2 168/3 175/15 175/20	someone [2] 81/10 112/17
houldn't [2] 57/15 73/1	sits [1] 16/9	Somers [3] 76/17 116/20 117/3
how [8] 10/10 19/3 19/3 22/9	sitting [2] 66/7 119/5	something [8] 32/23 43/19 52/
23/13 42/17 168/23 168/25	situation [3] 19/22 44/11	73/7 146/14 161/19 164/8
howed [1] 44/24	153/14	169/22
howing [3] 14/11 108/23 174/1	situations [1] 154/12	sometimes [3] 118/5 145/15
hown [3] 15/5 28/22 70/20	six [17] 16/25 27/24 52/8	148/6
hows [8] 20/20 20/22 20/24	66/24 78/8 78/17 79/6 80/4	somewhere [3] 27/24 33/25
22/8 23/10 69/17 108/22	83/25 84/11 94/3 94/17 109/15	34/12
150/15	113/16 114/10 134/11 161/17	soon [1] 75/13
hrub [2] 42/25 44/18	sixteen [4] 53/18 94/5 131/11	sorry [11] 4/5 10/21 10/22
hrubs [1] 94/8	171/8	54/7 60/18 106/3 111/13
hudder [1] 138/9	sixteen millions [1] 171/8	120/24 124/11 128/20 158/21
ide [15] 15/18 17/3 32/6	sixth [1] 81/6	sort [5] 56/2 85/17 100/11
	sixty [4] 95/2 114/8 114/14	114/6 164/15
84/9 84/13 89/15 121/21	119/2	sound [1] 118/14
129/23 131/2 159/15	sixty-eight [1] 114/8	sources [1] 64/3
ides [1] 36/21	sixty-three [1] 114/14	south [3] 76/16 120/7 137/7
idewalk [14] 32/10 35/20	size [6] 15/21 64/17 70/2	southbound [3] 84/2 140/4
83/20 84/12 140/15 140/18	146/1 149/11 168/23	143/7
140/19 140/24 141/5 141/7	sized [1] 117/19	southern [2] 63/11 76/23
141/11 141/15 141/17 141/17	skip [4] 91/22 93/2 93/15	space [8] 71/9 71/11 71/17
idewalks [1] 33/20	138/25	72/3 72/18 113/25 130/2
<pre>ighted [1] 16/19 ign [6] 8/8 8/8 150/12 158/25</pre>	skipping [1] 90/8	149/14
174/20 174/21	sleepys [2] 15672 15674 slew [1] 96/17	spaces [8] 17/1 89/23 92/5 109/13 122/24 123/2 127/19
ign-in [2] 8/8 174/20	slide [19] 13/14 16/17 19/4	109/13 122/24 123/2 127/19 127/23
ignal [9] 30/2 30/5 30/15	19/14 19/23 20/19 21/8 21/16	Spadacia [1] 172/23
31/16 33/20 34/5 34/6 76/5	22/19 23/2 26/6 27/9 29/15	speak [8] 8/13 9/17 9/20 12/
115/12	29/22 30/8 30/16 35/11 39/5	56/15 110/14 110/16 115/24
ignals [2] 31/12 32/14	69/10	speaker [3] 9/11 118/25 157/
igned [4] 7/20 8/11 8/12 89/2		speakers [5] 53/21 97/10 99/
ignificance [2] 5/4 67/19	sloppiness [1] 156/8	118/17 122/22
ignificant [9] 4/9 11/24 14/4	smacked [1] 118/5	speaking [2] 54/4 109/24
15/17 24/22 25/6 37/5 101/22	small [21] 48/15 52/20 52/25	special [7] 47/22 48/21 48/2
156/9	63/2 85/17 85/19 89/20 91/18	73/16 89/11 102/20 102/24
ignificantly [3] 65/5 155/24	96/2 100/20 114/3 114/13	specialist [1] 168/9
164/9	132/15 136/13 139/16 156/23	specialized [2] 163/4 163/8
ilt [1] 173/6	158/1 158/6 158/14 160/5	specializes [1] 23/24
imilar [3] 43/8 65/5 154/14	162/25	specially [1] 19/25
imple [1] 114/22	smaller [1] 157/20	specialty [2] 151/8 163/8
imply [1] 55/8	smell [1] 90/21	specific [5] 4/21 4/25 28/18
inagogue [1] 127/6	Smithies [2] 60/18 60/21	121/5 136/9
	smoking [1] 147/10	specifically [9] 39/17 50/4
		50/5 74/20 100/18 102/6 121,
58/22 95/18 131/20 133/6	snarky [1] 93/14	50/5 /1/20 100/10 102/0 121,
58/22 95/18 131/20 133/6 134/5 136/10 146/16 149/10	sneaks [1] 173/13	121/10 126/12
58/22 95/18 131/20 133/6 134/5 136/10 146/16 149/10 150/2 156/22 156/24 159/6	<pre>sneaks [1] 173/13 snicker [1] 87/23</pre>	121/10 126/12 specifics [1] 37/1
58/22 95/18 131/20 133/6 134/5 136/10 146/16 149/10 150/2 156/22 156/24 159/6 160/7	<pre>sneaks [1] 173/13 snicker [1] 87/23 snow [3] 127/24 141/6 141/12</pre>	121/10 126/12 specifics [1] 37/1 specify [1] 135/25
58/22 95/18 131/20 133/6 134/5 136/10 146/16 149/10 150/2 156/22 156/24 159/6 160/7 ingle [4] 60/6 112/16 114/23	<pre>sneaks [1] 173/13 snicker [1] 87/23 snow [3] 127/24 141/6 141/12 so [147]</pre>	121/10 126/12 specifics [1] 37/1 specify [1] 135/25 speed [1] 8/18
58/22 95/18 131/20 133/6 134/5 136/10 146/16 149/10 150/2 156/22 156/24 159/6 160/7 Single [4] 60/6 112/16 114/23 130/1	<pre>sneaks [1] 173/13 snicker [1] 87/23 snow [3] 127/24 141/6 141/12 so [147] social [1] 164/17</pre>	121/10 126/12 specifics [1] 37/1 specify [1] 135/25 speed [1] 8/18 spend [7] 26/2 33/17 37/8 53
<pre>since [16] 19/25 52/11 55/16 58/22 95/18 131/20 133/6 134/5 136/10 146/16 149/10 150/2 156/22 156/24 159/6 160/7 single [4] 60/6 112/16 114/23 130/1 single-family [3] 112/16</pre>	<pre>sneaks [1] 173/13 snicker [1] 87/23 snow [3] 127/24 141/6 141/12 so [147] social [1] 164/17 socio [2] 40/17 45/18</pre>	121/10 126/12 specifics [1] 37/1 specify [1] 135/25 speed [1] 8/18 spend [7] 26/2 33/17 37/8 53 57/12 162/14 174/8
58/22 95/18 131/20 133/6 134/5 136/10 146/16 149/10 150/2 156/22 156/24 159/6 160/7 Single [4] 60/6 112/16 114/23 130/1 Single-family [3] 112/16 114/23 130/1	<pre>sneaks [1] 173/13 snicker [1] 87/23 snow [3] 127/24 141/6 141/12 so [147] social [1] 164/17 socio [2] 40/17 45/18 socio-economic [2] 40/17 45/18</pre>	121/10 126/12 specifics [1] 37/1 specify [1] 135/25 speed [1] 8/18 spend [7] 26/2 33/17 37/8 53 57/12 162/14 174/8 spending [4] 33/18 41/5 150/
58/22 95/18 131/20 133/6 134/5 136/10 146/16 149/10 150/2 156/22 156/24 159/6 160/7 single [4] 60/6 112/16 114/23 130/1 single-family [3] 112/16 114/23 130/1 sir [7] 115/17 115/21 131/18	<pre>sneaks [1] 173/13 snicker [1] 87/23 snow [3] 127/24 141/6 141/12 so [147] social [1] 164/17 socio [2] 40/17 45/18 socio-economic [2] 40/17 45/18 software [1] 108/14</pre>	121/10 126/12 specifics [1] 37/1 specify [1] 135/25 speed [1] 8/18 spend [7] 26/2 33/17 37/8 53 57/12 162/14 174/8 spending [4] 33/18 41/5 150/2 174/6
58/22 95/18 131/20 133/6 134/5 136/10 146/16 149/10 150/2 156/22 156/24 159/6 160/7 single [4] 60/6 112/16 114/23 130/1 single-family [3] 112/16 114/23 130/1 sir [7] 115/17 115/21 131/18 132/10 145/2 161/25 174/16	<pre>sneaks [1] 173/13 snicker [1] 87/23 snow [3] 127/24 141/6 141/12 so [147] social [1] 164/17 socio [2] 40/17 45/18 socio-economic [2] 40/17 45/18 software [1] 108/14 sold [5] 132/14 147/2 151/20</pre>	121/10 126/12 specifics [1] 37/1 specify [1] 135/25 speed [1] 8/18 spend [7] 26/2 33/17 37/8 53 57/12 162/14 174/8 spending [4] 33/18 41/5 150/ 174/6 spent [8] 41/22 41/23 42/7
58/22 95/18 131/20 133/6 134/5 136/10 146/16 149/10 150/2 156/22 156/24 159/6 160/7 single [4] 60/6 112/16 114/23 130/1 single-family [3] 112/16 114/23 130/1 sir [7] 115/17 115/21 131/18 132/10 145/2 161/25 174/16 sit [1] 118/5	<pre>sneaks [1] 173/13 snicker [1] 87/23 snow [3] 127/24 141/6 141/12 so [147] social [1] 164/17 socio [2] 40/17 45/18 socio-economic [2] 40/17 45/18 software [1] 108/14 sold [5] 132/14 147/2 151/20 155/5 155/14</pre>	121/10 126/12 specifics [1] 37/1 specify [1] 135/25 speed [1] 8/18 spend [7] 26/2 33/17 37/8 53 57/12 162/14 174/8 spending [4] 33/18 41/5 150/ 174/6 spent [8] 41/22 41/23 42/7 61/21 61/22 100/2 100/7 151,
58/22 95/18 131/20 133/6 134/5 136/10 146/16 149/10 150/2 156/22 156/24 159/6 160/7 single [4] 60/6 112/16 114/23 130/1 single-family [3] 112/16 114/23 130/1 sir [7] 115/17 115/21 131/18 132/10 145/2 161/25 174/16	<pre>sneaks [1] 173/13 snicker [1] 87/23 snow [3] 127/24 141/6 141/12 so [147] social [1] 164/17 socio [2] 40/17 45/18 socio-economic [2] 40/17 45/18 software [1] 108/14 sold [5] 132/14 147/2 151/20</pre>	121/10 126/12 specifics [1] 37/1 specify [1] 135/25 speed [1] 8/18 spend [7] 26/2 33/17 37/8 53 57/12 162/14 174/8 spending [4] 33/18 41/5 150/ 174/6 spent [8] 41/22 41/23 42/7

P<u>roceedings</u> 101/21 101/23 103/25 104/7 Sterling [1] 154/1 S **Steve [3]** 67/3 95/11 95/16 104/14 105/3 105/10 105/13 **splitting [1]** 17/9 Stew [1] 161/9 105/17 105/19 107/21 108/13 73/10 143/17 still [16] 62/21 68/4 95/24 spoke [2] 117/9 126/8 145/24 150/15 **spoken** [1] 10/8 103/16 110/5 119/21 127/24 150/17 152/2 152/15 152/18 **sports** [5] 25/17 147/10 152/14 157/15 157/16 158/2 159/12 154/23 156/16 168/21 152/14 157/15 159/24 159/25 174/17 174/20 **stuff [5]** 111/9 154/11 156/25 spots [2] 122/20 123/6 175/13 158/4 160/3 **stupid** [2] 159/18 160/15 **spread** [1] 113/25 **stock** [1] 123/21 Springs [2] 55/13 55/15 **stocking [1]** 108/15 **style [1]** 126/15 stocks [1] 52/5 Stoney [4] 21/23 26/22 27/6 square [10] 40/24 71/8 71/10 styles [1] 163/9 72/2 72/17 90/4 93/8 105/9 subdivision [1] 114/13 136/20 150/19 30/10 submit [2] 8/24 9/19 squeeze [1] 94/9 **submitted** [1] 94/15 **stop [8]** 84/14 140/8 140/15 **stacking** [1] 31/12 140/25 141/23 142/6 143/3 submitting [2] 9/21 171/25 staff [2] 5/13 81/5 143/6 **subsequent** [1] 42/14 **stage [1]** 11/18 stops [2] 32/5 142/9 substantial [4] 100/2 103/4 **stages [1]** 67/16 store [38] 10/25 22/4 39/11 133/8 169/5 **Stakehouse** [1] 163/20 40/23 40/25 42/9 43/20 43/24 substantially [2] 90/22 108/2 standards [4] 102/24 103/1 45/1 45/21 46/9 47/11 49/14 substantive [2] 10/5 10/7 103/3 109/10 49/15 59/23 90/4 96/18 96/23 succeeded [1] 44/6 standing [3] 32/9 96/13 100/20 successful [2] 158/7 161/15 123/10 123/13 123/17 131/24 such [20] 4/12 9/13 55/3 55/5 **stands** [1] 126/14 132/1 132/6 139/5 140/21 staples [7] 26/22 28/1 28/19 141/1 141/19 141/22 142/7 86/16 94/22 96/7 96/14 101/10 28/23 31/15 65/9 167/13 142/10 143/5 144/20 149/20 103/5 116/22 130/8 137/18 start [9] 29/3 51/13 51/14 151/9 151/11 157/19 158/12 149/22 151/9 154/6 154/7 55/18 58/7 74/15 134/17 163/6 155/6 155/7 161/8 stores [29] 44/9 49/6 49/22 174/19 61/11 62/6 64/8 64/12 65/6 sufficient [4] 44/24 77/12 Startbucks [1] 165/15 89/21 95/24 96/18 99/1 101/1 83/11 86/25 started [8] 27/23 28/25 33/22 104/15 104/16 104/20 105/6 sugar [1] 87/25 51/18 87/22 162/9 165/2 105/9 105/25 124/12 131/22 suggest [3] 127/13 142/20 172/16 132/17 132/17 135/10 136/6 143/1 **starting [6]** 28/19 51/10 51/11 149/22 151/2 151/8 161/18 suggested [1] 143/10 126/1 128/10 164/5 stormwater [9] 15/12 15/14 suggesting [1] 122/23 **starts [2]** 8/17 87/25 20/2 20/4 20/9 20/17 21/3 suggestions [1] 97/11 **state [50]** 3/15 11/23 11/24 21/15 168/11 suggests [1] 98/23 18/13 26/5 27/8 28/13 28/18 **story [2]** 94/24 110/21 Sultana [1] 60/19 28/24 29/4 29/8 29/12 32/25 Strang [13] 29/3 31/4 31/13 summarize [2] 8/24 106/8 33/21 36/22 48/12 52/12 53/4 75/22 76/9 83/22 84/4 84/14 summarizes [1] 48/4 63/12 63/12 67/13 68/19 69/9 115/11 118/19 140/9 140/25 summary [5] 9/22 76/6 82/6 69/24 70/5 70/17 71/4 71/9 143/3 83/18 89/7 71/15 71/21 72/7 72/8 72/12 **strange [1]** 72/6 Summit [3] 67/4 68/7 95/12 75/2 88/21 89/16 94/20 95/4 **strategic** [1] 12/1 Sunday [2] 140/5 143/18 102/4 102/6 112/24 115/9 strategically [1] 49/18 Sunshine [3] 67/1 73/23 74/8 119/17 119/23 125/18 129/18 stream [6] 21/16 96/4 172/25 **superb** [1] 65/6 134/23 141/8 162/12 173/7 173/12 173/24 174/9 superintendent [2] 114/20 state's [1] 113/2 streams [1] 173/10 172/24 stated [4] 10/18 70/14 147/15 street [22] 1/8 7/14 10/24 supervisor [3] 67/24 68/1 69/5 167/15 21/23 22/4 26/23 30/10 58/21 supplies [3] 83/12 147/6 148/1 **supply [2]** 64/8 64/9 statement [11] 3/4 3/7 5/6 67/4 76/20 76/21 76/25 84/3 11/13 38/3 48/25 73/2 73/12 support [13] 47/5 54/17 56/5 84/13 95/12 99/9 124/19 125/1 74/18 86/24 99/19 127/7 152/12 166/24 172/11 56/11 59/15 65/4 82/2 82/12 statements [3] 37/22 37/23 **strength** [1] 59/25 83/7 83/11 83/15 132/21 69/7 stretch [2] 31/2 76/3 158/15 **states [9]** 50/21 52/13 69/10 **strip [2]** 44/7 44/12 supported [1] 41/1 78/6 78/10 102/7 147/1 149/19 strong [1] 157/7 supporter [1] 59/1 154/22 stronger [1] 61/18 supporters [1] 99/2 station [19] 14/14 17/7 25/11 strongly [3] 49/1 61/15 126/9 supports [1] 39/19 40/25 75/3 75/5 79/4 80/4 **structure** [1] 92/18 supposed [2] 94/13 104/8 80/6 80/21 89/11 90/7 93/6 structured [1] 6/25 supposedly [1] 149/3 111/1 111/3 126/17 126/24 **struggled** [1] 121/24 supposition [2] 135/15 136/17 127/14 171/9 **stuck [4]** 88/22 162/5 162/11 **sure [19]** 3/23 7/5 8/8 8/11 stations [2] 161/11 171/5 162/19 8/12 50/18 73/3 74/10 84/19 statistics [2] 143/22 165/17 studied [5] 26/8 27/8 34/4 91/2 100/1 109/5 115/1 120/17 **stay** [5] 27/3 36/2 36/7 138/15 103/9 148/21 128/14 132/18 132/22 159/21 176/1 studies [9] 23/10 23/13 23/13 167/24 26/10 26/13 99/24 117/1 Steadman [1] 167/11 **surface [1]** 96/2 surfaces [3] 127/19 127/20 **STEINBERG** [1] 2/14 145/22 150/1 stenographer [5] 7/22 87/17 study [35] 26/1 26/10 40/19 127/25 107/17 128/3 175/14 41/2 42/14 44/23 62/14 64/19 surge [2] 163/2 169/3 **step [1]** 136/4 91/7 100/10 101/17 101/19 surmises [1] 89/12

S surprised [2] 62/8 148/7 surrounding [1] 63/19 survey [4] 13/17 43/2 45/8 66/3 **survive** [1] 64/12 sustain [1] 124/15 sustainable [9] 26/9 91/6 98/17 98/18 100/9 101/16 101/21 117/8 126/7 sustainably [1] 99/5 SUVs [1] 66/5 sweet [1] 145/1 switched [1] 132/8 **symbol** [1] 54/22 Synchro [3] 108/20 108/21 108/25system [3] 20/18 20/20 34/8 systems [2] 15/2 24/3 Т t-shirts [2] 57/13 57/15 table [2] 8/9 95/19 Taconic [23] 11/23 16/2 16/11 16/21 17/13 18/13 18/23 19/5 19/12 19/17 25/12 27/3 31/1 34/19 75/11 84/10 84/18 89/16 94/12 94/20 95/4 122/10 137/8 tactic [1] 126/25 take [25] 10/16 16/22 22/17 58/9 66/15 71/22 72/16 75/19 81/14 86/20 87/6 96/12 97/4 105/4 107/21 108/14 113/10 114/4 123/19 127/13 128/2 131/25 137/10 137/20 138/15 18/11 36/4 54/25 taken [11] 66/17 68/11 85/16 110/15 110/17 128/5 138/18 173/2 takes [4] 22/13 41/16 151/10 166/5 taking [7] 3/9 28/13 30/24 34/7 68/24 76/2 107/9 talk [16] 12/22 25/4 25/7 28/17 37/12 50/3 74/5 97/4 100/18 110/18 115/18 119/12 123/9 157/1 165/11 167/4 talked [13] 19/9 24/11 30/1 35/10 35/25 71/2 165/19 168/20 169/11 169/24 170/8 171/6 171/20 talking [9] 14/12 21/10 21/18 74/2 114/9 118/13 153/4 159/8 170/4 talks [2] 39/25 104/14 tank [1] 98/8 tanker [1] 76/13 tanks [1] 15/3 tantamount [1] 142/13 tape [5] 10/15 66/16 66/21 138/14 138/19 taped [1] 10/14 tapes [1] 175/10 tax [18] 48/14 48/16 110/18 112/24 113/3 113/13 113/23 113/25 114/2 114/3 114/4 114/17 119/19 119/20 119/23 120/11 133/4 133/8 taxes [25] 46/25 47/1 47/3 47/4 47/11 47/13 47/20 47/21 48/1 48/5 48/10 48/11 48/18

Proceedings 48/22 64/21 82/10 112/4 112/15 114/16 115/8 119/14 130/14 158/3 166/4 166/7 taxing [1] 48/6 team [5] 13/13 24/5 37/7 104/2 168/17 technical [1] 73/4 Tecun [2] 1/23 177/16 Tecun-Patchen [2] 1/23 177/16 **TEGEDER [4]** 2/13 7/13 9/25 109/23 telephone [1] 21/19 tell [2] 111/3 161/18 temple [2] 22/5 22/12 temporary [3] 46/3 46/16 133/15 temporary/full [1] 133/15 ten [12] 7/9 17/1 31/22 34/1 35/2 52/4 63/23 74/17 75/10 85/21 120/11 136/23 ten million [1] 34/1 terminable [1] 51/3 terms [11] 32/3 35/1 37/3 40/16 45/5 45/17 45/23 46/14 46/25 48/18 50/5 terrain [4] 16/1 16/9 16/14 16/23 tersely [1] 144/5 test [1] 90/21 tested [1] 117/2 testimony [1] 7/7 than [23] 13/20 51/7 57/2 61/18 65/5 73/5 74/3 74/5 76/2 79/6 80/19 81/17 98/16 103/23 107/1 107/10 118/1 123/14 125/21 151/2 155/4 166/18 172/2 thank [80] 3/9 13/6 19/14 37/13 50/8 54/2 55/11 58/15 58/16 60/15 60/17 64/25 66/14 66/16 73/21 73/22 74/1 74/14 84/24 85/6 85/7 85/9 85/23 86/4 86/5 87/14 87/15 87/20 88/2 93/21 94/1 95/8 95/10 95/14 97/10 99/5 99/6 107/18 109/23 110/3 111/12 111/18 115/15 115/17 115/23 128/1 128/3 128/8 129/1 131/9 131/10 131/10 131/17 132/10 138/12 138/13 138/16 138/21 144/22 144/24 145/2 146/7 146/13 146/21 156/18 156/20 158/15 160/18 161/23 161/24 162/1 166/20 172/6 172/7 172/19 174/10 174/16 175/2 176/8 176/12 thanking [1] 55/18 thanks [2] 146/25 159/13 that [636] that's [41] 15/15 28/12 32/18 34/24 38/18 41/11 46/13 49/23 50/17 52/21 52/22 53/13 62/21 64/10 64/11 71/19 73/13 73/19 88/4 93/1 93/14 96/9 98/21 125/9 128/23 132/1 132/8 134/12 150/4 156/5 157/7 162/22 165/7 166/7 166/18 167/19 167/22 167/23 169/23 174/9 175/24 that's why [1] 73/19 their [43] 7/21 8/24 11/8

203 22/22 33/13 44/2 51/21 52/5 56/18 57/14 63/7 65/6 81/15 82/16 89/12 93/6 98/13 104/6 108/10 113/1 116/17 118/7 118/10 120/1 123/12 123/13 123/15 127/23 130/14 130/20 130/25 134/23 136/12 138/5 141/23 142/15 151/19 153/11 153/23 153/24 158/12 159/19 159/22 them [29] 9/19 23/8 35/4 37/1 51/1 53/3 56/6 57/2 62/12 69/3 77/21 84/1 88/1 92/20 97/10 104/3 106/12 120/22 123/8 128/22 131/7 132/24 134/2 134/22 138/5 151/24 155/18 159/21 171/3 themselves [2] 64/8 64/10 then [35] 3/4 4/23 8/6 12/15 12/20 22/24 28/3 36/1 41/12 42/5 44/10 44/13 45/2 45/9 51/5 64/18 73/20 74/4 75/15 83/3 84/2 104/10 121/5 124/21 143/6 152/23 159/2 162/16 165/4 169/21 172/8 173/1 173/4 173/6 173/14 there [156] these [56] 4/16 29/16 30/20 39/15 43/3 43/21 43/22 45/5 45/19 45/24 46/22 49/21 53/1 64/16 68/23 69/11 70/19 76/1 83/16 88/12 90/12 90/13 90/19 90/20 91/8 91/13 91/15 97/21 99/11 103/12 103/20 104/20 104/20 104/20 104/21 112/13 114/19 120/21 129/11 133/17 133/18 133/22 133/23 134/17 134/19 134/20 136/15 145/20 147/14 147/14 154/5 159/1 159/19 166/6 168/16 168/24 Theses [1] 168/8 they [143] they'll [3] 20/15 122/19 122/20 they've [2] 104/4 168/20 thing [20] 33/5 61/5 62/13 85/17 111/8 122/18 127/11 129/7 153/15 153/21 157/7 160/10 160/24 164/15 165/21 165/23 165/25 166/1 166/2 169/16 things [23] 18/6 19/24 23/5 23/5 25/6 36/12 40/18 50/14 51/24 89/6 95/3 96/21 97/22 116/14 120/21 124/10 124/21 126/5 154/20 159/20 163/4 170/23 170/24 think [55] 18/2 34/24 36/10 58/12 61/11 62/9 62/12 74/5 85/12 89/20 93/22 98/14 98/21 99/25 102/15 104/3 105/15 107/5 110/11 111/7 116/23 119/7 120/12 120/17 121/6 121/10 125/5 132/19 136/15 136/16 137/25 138/9 145/17 148/23 155/17 156/6 157/2 157/7 157/13 157/16 157/18 157/20 157/20 157/21 157/22 157/25 158/1 158/7 158/11 162/21 163/6 163/25 166/4 166/18 173/21

	Proceedings	204
Т	time [74] 3/9 8/16 9/6 9/8	transient [1] 162/4
	9/16 11/17 23/7 26/2 32/6	transition [1] 28/3
third [8] 30/2 36/6 56/12	37/6 39/14 46/3 46/16 50/16	transpired [1] 27/10
71/16 71/17 93/25 141/22 166/2	50/24 52/1 52/5 53/17 57/21 61/21 62/19 66/18 66/20 69/19	transportation [27] 23/25 24/3 26/6 27/20 32/12 84/4 105/20
thirdly [1] 151/21	69/20 75/24 78/15 78/17 78/21	105/23 109/9 139/4 139/6
thirteen [1] 161/18	80/9 80/24 80/25 81/2 81/7	139/15 139/18 139/21 141/25
thirty [17] 16/10 19/19 53/2	81/14 81/18 87/13 90/11 95/9	141/25 142/11 142/14 142/19
57/5 60/22 61/23 71/24 94/17	95/20 95/20 96/16 100/2 100/8	142/25 143/9 143/16 143/23
104/15 114/10 127/18 134/14	108/9 110/5 111/23 115/13	144/1 144/4 144/9 144/17
161/16 164/21 168/16 168/16	115/15 116/13 117/10 120/21	trash [1] 51/19
172/12 thirty-eight [2] 61/23 172/12	121/13 126/25 126/25 128/5 128/7 130/13 131/22 133/15	traumatic [1] 164/9
thirty-five [2] 60/22 134/14	135/12 135/13 142/22 159/6	travel [1] 161/20 traveling [4] 49/11 130/24
thirty-six [2] 94/17 114/10	159/8 162/14 163/13 164/13	154/7 161/3
this [274]	164/23 165/20 169/18 170/3	travels [1] 139/24
those [47] 11/12 14/9 14/22	174/18 176/14	traversed [1] 76/12
20/25 26/17 30/17 31/23 31/24	• •	traverses [1] 27/17
34/23 40/7 40/9 43/5 43/9	timely [3] 34/5 84/23 141/6	TRC [7] 12/13 13/5 13/9 77/25
45/21 47/4 48/10 50/25 64/12 69/23 77/9 81/2 89/25 95/23	timer [1] 53/23	79/20 82/16 104/3
97/15 103/1 103/2 105/5 118/4	times [6] 63/23 75/7 80/7 81/13 126/4 161/17	treasure [1] 52/7 treated [1] 88/15
118/15 121/24 123/25 124/7	timing [1] 76/5	treatment [1] 124/9
128/12 131/17 136/6 137/24	tiny [2] 147/19 147/19	tree [1] 95/20
142/15 142/16 144/21 149/24	tire [3] 90/6 93/5 101/13	trees [1] 173/2
149/25 154/12 155/8 155/16	tires [3] 97/22 147/12 150/24	tremendously [1] 42/2
155/23 161/5 173/17	TJ [1] 155/17	trend [1] 131/21
though [4] 11/16 20/4 44/17 151/19	to-date [1] 113/18	triangle [8] 12/4 12/10 33/4 39/21 43/24 91/14 102/1 156/2
thought [11] 40/21 54/21	today [4] 7/7 27/15 57/6 117/21	tributary [2] 15/15 21/6
142/20 162/16 163/5 163/11	together [7] 14/1 20/14 64/17	tried [2] 96/21 113/9
163/23 164/20 164/23 165/23	71/7 118/21 129/12 154/21	trip [4] 81/19 105/14 105/18
175/13	Tokyo [1] 52/15	107/20
thoughts [1] 144/18	told [8] 68/8 69/5 69/20 97/2	trips [11] 31/24 34/12 71/13
thousand [30] 40/24 50/23 50/24 52/4 57/9 57/17 63/3	97/9 138/1 159/3 170/1 Tom [7] 10/14 19/3 19/14 35/11	71/14 107/22 124/1 126/22
63/18 63/20 64/5 71/8 71/10	53/16 66/15 110/4	trouble [3] 98/2 120/22 170/23
71/12 72/2 72/17 90/3 93/8	Tompkin's [1] 152/3	troubles [2] 75/8 155/19
105/9 113/16 113/20 114/15	tone [1] 14/10	truck [5] 31/20 35/1 76/13
129/25 130/6 133/3 134/11	tonight [24] 4/1 7/19 8/13 9/1	
136/20 136/25 137/1 137/3	9/19 10/1 10/8 10/19 13/12	trucks [5] 76/13 117/14 117/22
137/11 thousands [2] 48/1 64/6	13/22 54/4 58/13 60/16 60/24	117/25 145/17
three [36] 29/20 31/23 33/19	87/23 88/13 88/24 128/16 137/8 145/11 158/25 159/2	true [7] 87/13 100/14 100/15 138/4 156/16 165/17 177/8
35/4 41/6 46/2 52/23 63/10	170/16 175/25	truth [1] 97/5
63/20 78/17 79/6 79/8 88/6	tonight's [3] 3/21 3/24 6/15	try [7] 9/12 11/5 19/12 54/1
88/25 93/15 93/24 108/3	Tony [2] 99/9 111/13	92/10 115/24 172/17
110/20 113/16 113/19 114/14	too [11] 38/7 38/9 90/9 96/2	trying [3] 27/7 36/21 87/17
114/14 126/4 130/3 130/4	127/25 131/12 143/15 146/14	tuition [1] 130/15
130/6 130/7 133/2 133/15 133/23 137/1 138/19 140/4	162/25 168/3 169/25 took [2] 103/24 137/9	tune [1] 96/12 Turcos [1] 151/7
143/20 151/12 163/17	top [4] 19/1 89/19 173/20	turn [9] 17/16 23/3 30/7 30/12
three million [1] 33/19	173/21	30/15 33/1 33/8 35/15 37/11
threw [1] 64/2	topics [1] 4/16	turning [4] 30/7 31/10 75/23
thrive [1] 158/3	totally [2] 74/10 157/18	118/6
thriving [1] 112/21	touched [1] 169/22	turnout [1] 9/5
through [23] 17/17 31/2 32/14	towards [4] 16/19 16/21 18/17	twelve [1] 140/10
33/3 35/19 35/21 71/18 75/22 81/8 81/9 82/3 84/18 84/21	122/1 town [119]	twenty [27] 16/9 24/13 24/16 37/19 42/3 46/7 65/3 91/20
108/3 115/11 116/8 117/16	town's [6] 6/9 6/15 68/15 75/5	
117/18 121/24 149/1 163/18	102/8 169/6	106/15 109/24 114/15 124/4
164/2 172/15	towns [2] 63/19 116/15	129/25 129/25 130/6 130/7
throughout [10] 9/3 15/7 19/21	track [1] 87/18	133/3 138/7 159/14 160/14
38/23 47/22 54/11 59/15 78/15	tractor [2] 31/22 35/3	161/16 174/19
100/10 $127/23$	trade [10] 41/6 41/7 41/9	twenty-eight [1] 129/25
throw [1] 174/12 throwing [1] 119/13	41/13 41/14 41/19 41/25 42/4 57/6 149/13	twenty-first [1] 160/14 twenty-five [9] 24/13 24/16
thru [1] 31/5	traffic [111]	37/19 65/3 94/5 104/15 129/25
thumb [1] 130/9	trail [1] 96/5	133/3 138/7
thus [1] 152/23	trailers [2] 31/22 35/3	twenty-four [1] 46/7
Tim [3] 99/8 99/15 99/19	transcript [2] 8/4 177/9	twenty-seven [1] 174/19

	Proceedings	205
Т	unsighted [1] 19/22	vegetative [2] 17/24 18/1
twenty-three [2] 130/6 130/7	until [4] 7/8 55/9 88/21 121/14	vehicle [2] 81/15 109/2 vehicles [4] 77/9 83/14 84/20
twenty-two [1] 42/3	untreated [1] 15/13	161/6
twice [3] 112/19 126/4 132/2	up [47] 4/22 7/4 7/21 8/10	vendor [1] 152/10
two [59] 14/15 27/5 29/20 30/6	8/18 9/15 10/18 17/15 19/2	vendors [1] 155/25
31/9 31/23 33/18 35/4 35/17 42/3 46/10 56/10 60/24 61/15	20/17 22/18 24/9 25/16 26/25 26/25 28/14 31/6 31/8 34/23	venture [1] 113/24 versa [1] 121/23
62/8 62/25 64/12 64/16 66/21	35/13 36/21 38/8 50/14 51/21	verse [1] 89/5
71/9 71/25 72/1 72/16 76/3	52/23 66/23 67/20 99/10	very [66] 5/24 7/15 8/3 13/24
78/19 83/25 84/11 92/1 92/2	109/17 110/21 112/17 116/10	15/23 18/5 18/5 21/1 32/7
95/3 101/5 105/8 113/19 113/21 114/9 117/9 130/3	121/21 123/17 124/19 125/22 126/6 127/12 130/4 130/18	33/15 37/4 42/12 42/12 43/16 43/16 45/15 45/20 45/20 45/21
130/9 131/22 134/9 134/11	132/4 147/23 148/22 159/6	45/24 46/24 46/24 48/25 49/3
134/21 135/3 136/24 137/6	159/15 163/16 172/9	49/3 50/2 50/8 56/17 58/13
137/10 140/3 140/4 145/5	up-to-date [1] 20/17	61/10 61/15 63/3 72/6 72/14
147/18 151/7 151/16 154/22 155/8 155/10 155/12 156/5	updating [1] 72/15 upgrades [1] 110/14	74/23 76/14 81/18 86/5 87/18 96/6 96/6 99/5 110/12 111/7
166/5 172/20	upon [4] 10/1 44/15 76/21	111/18 121/4 128/1 128/25
two-lane [1] 35/17	88/16	131/10 136/13 144/24 155/15
type [2] 12/8 49/7	upper [1] 18/3	157/2 157/2 157/12 157/12
typed [1] 147/19 types [1] 49/5	upset [1] 164/22 urge [1] 9/7	162/25 162/25 165/12 165/12 165/16 171/2 172/2 173/1
typical [3] 19/4 25/19 100/25	urges [1] 9/7 urges [1] 60/13	174/10 176/8
U	us [23] 3/10 11/7 19/10 36/23	via [1] 76/24
	51/6 53/12 65/20 69/5 96/13	vibrant [1] 98/21
U.S [3] 50/25 88/14 110/22 uhm [1] 120/24	97/20 99/3 132/18 132/21 134/16 134/24 152/23 158/8	vice [2] 23/21 121/23 vicinity [1] 95/18
Ultimately [1] 77/15	165/5 166/6 167/20 168/8	victory [1] 57/18
un [1] 41/4	174/18 175/16	view [9] 6/21 18/19 18/20 19/4
un-net [1] 41/4 unable [2] 88/19 144/21	usage [2] 142/1 143/23	19/5 21/5 26/23 87/1 100/11
unacceptable [2] 141/2 141/24	use [27] 34/20 37/8 38/4 39/7 39/19 40/5 40/15 54/13 54/16	views [5] 8/1 19/12 19/15 55/22 55/23
under [16] 3/15 6/17 39/11		village [6] 12/8 40/1 40/6
40/20 43/11 43/13 43/19 44/21	101/14 102/1 102/9 119/10	89/19 126/15 160/11
82/7 84/9 84/15 84/18 88/14 88/20 108/2 144/13	123/4 123/5 123/12 123/14 127/14 141/25 148/3 149/14	<pre>village-like [2] 40/1 40/6 village-type [1] 12/8</pre>
underestimate [1] 126/17	168/3	Vince [3] 37/11 37/15 104/2
underestimating [1] 126/21	used [5] 22/4 108/13 108/20	Vincent [4] 12/21 166/23 172/9
underground [1] 173/10 underlines [1] 78/4	119/24 132/6 usefulness [1] 77/13	172/10 violating [1] 88/10
underlying [1] 89/17	user [1] 142/17	virtue [1] 44/5
underserved [1] 49/9	users [2] 142/11 144/17	Visconti [2] 55/13 55/15
undersized [1] 117/18	uses [11] 43/4 89/10 89/18	visibility [2] 95/4 95/5
understand [13] 3/12 3/24 7/16 11/10 25/2 55/23 74/11 89/4	100/21 100/23 100/25 101/2 101/9 101/10 105/19 148/2	visibly [1] 96/5 visit [3] 96/4 142/22 143/11
90/12 150/1 153/1 169/19	using [6] 32/12 53/22 108/25	visual [2] 38/4 40/11
170/21	130/2 136/21 160/5	visually [1] 108/22
understands [1] 33/16 understated [1] 168/25	utilities [3] 21/17 72/22 112/9	vital [1] 98/10 volume [1] 34/17
Understood [1] 106/11		volumes [1] 100/24
undertaking [1] 45/14	V	volunteer [3] 83/1 121/19
undertook [2] 40/19 44/16 uneasy [1] 154/20	vacancies [3] 44/17 45/10 45/12	165/4
uneasy [1] 154/20 unemployed [2] 134/1 134/6	45/12 vacancy [2] 118/22 119/2	volunteers [1] 121/16 vote [1] 175/6
unemployment [2] 45/25 138/12	vacant [7] 104/17 104/24 105/6	W
unfavorable [2] 78/2 78/5	105/9 112/12 123/6 125/3	
Unfortunately [1] 48/14 unidentified [1] 104/15	validity [1] 156/11 Valley [9] 42/25 58/22 59/14	Waccabuc [1] 76/16 wage [2] 51/12 135/14
union [4] 52/13 88/7 92/15	75/6 80/6 80/21 81/11 81/16	waje [2] 51/12 135/14 wait [8] 9/16 27/6 32/25 33/6
134/4	84/22	75/9 79/6 80/18 169/13
unionized [1] 134/6 unique [1] 59/4	value [5] 12/1 15/24 96/10 161/1 161/19	waiting [2] 32/8 32/20 Waldbaums [2] 61/25 63/4
United [3] 50/21 52/13 52/16	Van [1] 65/1	walk [6] 96/22 141/21 142/12
units [1] 112/11	variance [7] 25/21 27/12 92/4	143/4 143/6 174/15
unknown [1] 54/9	92/6 94/6 94/22 109/19	walkability [1] 99/1
unless [4] 103/14 113/8 115/3 118/20	variances [4] 92/2 95/1 102/17 102/19	Walmart [9] 52/2 65/12 117/23 123/11 124/4 124/24 124/25
unlikely [1] 25/15	various [8] 3/16 47/22 48/4	124/25 125/3
unload [1] 118/7	48/6 48/20 67/15 69/17 75/24	want [32] 3/22 4/1 6/11 11/18
unrelated [1] 67/17	vegetating [1] 18/18	19/17 22/21 23/4 23/9 27/18
		1

	Froceedings	200
T-7	90/13 97/1 112/5 128/6 135/25	64/14 73/19 88/18 97/24 111/2
W	142/9 142/10 163/4 164/4	111/4 113/24 147/14 152/10
want [23] 45/7 45/16 56/5	172/22 173/9 173/17	152/13 153/5 153/19 154/1
59/10 62/11 66/12 73/6 87/15	weren't [1] 33/5	154/16 155/20 156/2 162/22
89/1 98/7 107/7 120/24 125/2	west [11] 12/10 15/18 17/3	174/7 174/8
125/24 125/24 128/13 132/18		
		widen [4] 27/25 28/5 31/3
132/22 134/25 151/24 162/14	121/19 137/16 140/16	115/11
164/24 170/22	westbound [7] 17/19 25/18	widening [2] 97/6 173/7
wanted [5] 37/2 53/14 64/23	28/11 29/19 31/5 84/17 145/23	wife [1] 88/5
89/5 167/4	Westbury [3] 63/1 63/2 63/6	Wilbur [1] 166/16
wanting [2] 13/17 96/11		will [243]
wants [3] 36/25 124/25 175/12	47/20 48/12 56/9 56/10 56/11	William [1] 138/22
warehouse [4] 51/18 53/11		
warehouse [4] JI/10 JJ/II		willing [1] 119/6
136/21 149/22	119/25 120/2 123/1 125/8	wine [3] 155/1 155/4 163/3
was [109]	137/1 149/17	wines [1] 163/21
washes [1] 57/11	wetland [3] 15/23 95/22 173/9	Winslow [2] 96/14 96/16
Washington [2] 134/24 135/17	wetlands [5] 15/10 15/18 16/13	Winter [1] 92/23
wasn't [6] 33/2 61/8 118/4	16/16 112/1	wishes [1] 112/22
122/13 127/10 162/3	what [100]	within [30] 41/5 41/7 41/15
waste [1] 72/22	what's [1] 29/7	41/23 42/10 42/19 43/3 43/5
water [5] 71/2 96/3 139/14	whatever [4] 44/2 94/17 98/12	43/10 44/25 45/5 49/11 51/17
148/4 169/3	167/9	61/15 65/24 69/18 70/18 76/2
watershed [1] 20/1	whatsoever [1] 21/5	81/1 85/21 98/19 115/25
	·	
way [32] 17/12 26/25 29/4	wheelers [1] 117/21	116/18 116/19 120/2 124/13
29/10 31/8 40/2 41/17 43/1		131/21 136/23 147/17 163/17
48/14 51/21 51/21 61/21 96/7	18/21 36/16 38/14 41/3 41/14	without [4] 55/5 104/9 105/4
96/23 98/18 104/1 117/4	57/16 65/20 81/11 85/16 85/18	129/23
119/17 121/25 127/15 130/22	90/11 92/16 97/1 99/10 104/7	withstand [1] 141/17
140/17 140/21 140/25 146/4		Witness [1] 150/11
147/24 162/3 166/2 169/7	122/7 123/9 150/11 157/19	won't [5] 33/13 67/8 127/25
173/13 173/24 174/11	159/21 162/8 162/25 163/2	138/15 170/24
ways [3] 157/6 162/25 162/25	164/7 165/14 166/9 166/14	wondered [1] 97/24
we [347]	173/9 174/23	wonderful [1] 103/13
we'd [1] 130/9		
	whenever [2] 123/7 163/23	wondering [1] 137/24
we'll [7] 7/10 31/4 90/6 98/15	where [38] 16/15 26/16 26/20	Woods [1] 80/4
99/7 170/2 176/11		Woodwork [1] 152/12
we've [19] 13/25 25/23 50/16	35/13 44/12 62/11 62/23 72/20	word [3] 60/6 78/4 123/14
99/23 105/17 107/25 110/5	75/9 76/4 83/16 85/15 112/18	words [2] 42/7 89/25
119/1 126/4 129/20 131/3	116/12 119/19 122/8 122/24	work [32] 3/10 7/1 7/3 7/6
140/17 168/5 169/24 170/8	125/7 130/18 133/18 133/23	23/25 32/16 33/11 33/12 35/14
171/4 171/20 172/15 173/5		36/19 38/15 42/10 50/12 55/24
weather [1] 142/13	143/5 143/20 145/19 161/1	57/25 82/20 88/8 104/5 104/6
web [4] 69/15 73/15 73/15	161/9 163/11 163/24 176/2	108/23 109/4 113/9 118/21
		100/25 105/4 115/5 110/21
148/17	Whereupon [5] 66/17 66/19	119/7 119/9 119/24 124/5
website [4] 6/10 6/15 69/16	128/4 128/6 138/17	127/24 130/8 134/14 164/1
97/12	whether [5] 40/23 68/21 93/13	166/11
websites [1] 68/5	139/3 155/4	workable [1] 109/20
week [4] 65/24 85/9 85/10	which [97]	worked [3] 51/21 104/3 129/6
143/21	whichever [1] 52/2	workers [5] 123/14 123/22
weekday [1] 34/15	while [10] 24/19 39/23 40/20	133/18 134/6 139/7
weekdays [2] 139/25 143/14	54/20 90/18 118/12 118/24	working [11] 39/3 50/2 56/24
weekend [1] 34/14	125/8 141/23 142/17	57/6 57/11 57/14 61/5 87/10
weeks [3] 52/9 134/14 172/20	White [5] 125/7 139/24 139/25	95/17 99/3 105/11
welcome [2] 3/5 58/3		works [2] 52/10 89/20
well [41] 4/17 6/1 8/19 27/5	who [43] 5/24 7/22 8/12 8/20	world [2] 125/6 153/3
29/5 33/22 44/2 49/22 59/20	11/8 12/17 12/20 12/22 12/24	worse [2] 56/3 63/23
63/4 65/10 69/5 70/16 71/2	13/22 37/11 40/7 50/1 53/8	worship [2] 75/1 116/7
75/23 89/5 96/16 111/22	53/9 64/9 65/19 73/10 87/17	worth [2] 47/10 86/1
		• •
118/18 118/19 127/24 142/1	89/2 90/17 95/15 96/13 98/5	would [77] 3/9 11/6 13/4 17/19
150/14 151/8 153/7 153/8	98/9 112/22 119/6 120/6	19/6 23/16 27/25 37/10 39/12
153/16 157/21 157/22 159/13	123/23 124/3 126/18 137/12	39/14 44/9 44/11 44/13 45/4
162/16 162/18 163/11 163/16	137/18 139/7 142/15 142/16	49/12 49/14 49/25 53/10 55/18
164/7 168/21 169/21 169/24		
	142/24 144/21 154/6 160/8	58/8 61/4 61/12 61/14 62/7
170/21 172/14 175/8	164/10 166/11 167/13	64/14 64/15 65/14 65/16 65/23
went [3] 33/7 121/2 164/16	Whoever [1] 7/20	67/8 73/5 73/9 80/1 80/7
were [41] 5/20 8/20 14/9 14/20	wnoie [b] 48/20 67/24 68/12	80/18 83/12 83/13 83/14 83/16
14/23 17/10 19/6 23/5 24/7	73/12 116/22 173/19	85/16 86/10 88/1 89/20 90/23
25/24 26/10 32/20 38/1 38/18		
	wholesale [6] 1/6 89/10 92/10	92/24 93/10 95/3 95/5 95/13
39/12 43/23 61/7 66/2 66/4	93/8 132/17 139/5	97/2 97/6 98/7 103/1 104/11
66/5 66/19 67/17 67/25 68/8	whose [3] 72/3 149/8 166/16	107/2 107/6 108/20 113/10
68/11 69/7 69/22 72/20 90/12	why [22] 38/18 60/4 64/12	114/13 114/17 114/24 115/12
	1	

	Proceedings	207
W	119/17 120/9 120/10 120/15	20.
would [15] 115/14 135/17	127/13 146/19 147/18 148/8 148/9 148/9 148/9 148/13	
136/8 143/24 148/24 151/5	156/7 165/21 170/18 171/22	
151/6 163/22 163/24 164/12	175/13	
165/24 167/3 169/15 174/24 176/1	yours [1] 99/11 yourself [1] 142/23	
wouldn't [1] 94/7	Ζ	
Wow [1] 50/9 wrap [1] 172/8	Zino's [1] 14/14	•
wrapped [1] 1/2/0 wrapped [1] 126/6	zip [1] 52/23	
Wrights [2] 172/17 172/20	zone [7] 11/19 85/22 91/18	
writing [1] 127/10 written [10] 4/18 7/8 7/12	100/15 101/3 101/3 101/11 zones [2] 88/11 91/20	
9/18 9/21 55/6 100/16 138/24	zoning [15] 38/4 39/7 39/12	
170/18 171/6 wrong [4] 57/14 92/25 131/12	40/16 88/8 89/9 89/17 90/2	
152/8	92/2 92/4 92/13 100/15 100/19 102/13 114/6	
wrote [4] 77/24 79/19 90/17		
111/25	•	
Y	4	
yada [2] 89/24 89/24 yeah [4] 107/14 107/14 160/1		
yean [4] 107/14 107/14 160/1 169/16		
year [17] 27/23 29/14 32/7		
33/24 45/8 46/12 46/21 47/3 48/7 51/5 51/7 51/16 57/22		
66/2 71/23 134/13 168/14		
years [49] 13/11 13/20 13/21		
14/1 20/13 22/6 24/14 24/16 30/1 32/21 32/21 37/20 38/21		
51/15 60/22 61/15 61/23 62/8		
63/4 65/3 65/20 98/6 98/16 101/5 111/22 117/5 117/7		
117/7 117/9 118/23 119/3		
120/11 124/13 124/18 129/5		
130/21 131/4 132/14 149/18 159/14 160/6 160/21 161/17		
162/3 163/17 164/21 172/12		
172/15 172/25 yes [8] 23/3 34/10 68/23 107/6		
107/13 110/1 121/6 170/6		
yesterday [1] 87/23		
yet [8] 71/17 76/22 91/10 102/12 102/14 127/8 154/25		
171/7		
Yonkers [3] 49/15 56/14 161/21 York [21] 1/8 1/24 7/15 10/24		
26/5 37/18 38/10 48/13 63/1		
67/13 68/19 88/20 102/4 102/6 115/10 136/1 141/8 162/12		
162/13 162/18 163/12		
YORKTOWN [158]		
Yorktown's [3] 79/5 80/18 97/12		
Yorktowners [2] 23/23 56/1		
you [332] you'd [1] 106/13		
you'll [2] 148/13 149/24		
you've [3] 91/2 97/9 171/7 young [1] 159/2		
youngster [1] 130/15		
your [53] 3/10 6/20 7/4 8/5 8/5 8/15 9/6 9/8 10/17 59/6		
8/5 8/15 9/6 9/8 10/17 59/6 84/25 85/18 95/9 95/15 96/9		
97/23 98/4 99/6 100/17 101/4		
101/11 101/14 101/16 101/25 102/5 102/14 102/21 102/23		
102/25 102/14 102/21 102/25 102/25 107/2 107/11 109/6		
109/21 109/22 116/24 119/15		
	1	