VILLAGE OF ALTAMONT

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April 20, 2026

Dave Bourque, President
Historic Altamont, Inc.
P.O. Box 72
Altamont, NY 12009

Dear Mr. Bourque,

The Board of Trustees is pleased to offer our support for Historic Altamont's "Altamont Trails Master Plan". This carefully developed plan represents the kind of village-centered, but regionally connected, vision that the Village has long aspired to realize.

The Altamont Trails Master Plan specifically advances goals that our community has previously articulated in the Village of Altamont's Comprehensive Plan of 2006. That Plan called explicitly for the Village to "establish and expand the bicycle and pedestrian linkages between the village's primary destinations and neighborhoods" (Infrastructure and Transportation, Goal 4), and to "physically link residential areas, business areas, parks, gardens and open spaces within the Village, as well as connecting to parks and trails in neighboring communities" (Parks and Recreation, Goal 2, Objective 2.1). Nearly two decades later, the Altamont Trails Master Plan provides an actionable framework to make those goals a reality.

We are particularly encouraged by the following initiatives outlined in the Plan, each of which speaks directly to priorities established in our Comprehensive Plan:

- **Initiative 2 (Altamont Fairgrounds to Bozenkill Park on Gun Club Rd.)** aligns squarely with our 2006 Comprehensive Plan's call to improve sidewalk connections; specifically Goal 4, (4.1), working with the Town of Guilderland to construct a sidewalk along Gun Club Road. This link from Main Street to Bozenkill Park and Western Ave. fulfills a longstanding community desire.
- **Initiative 3 (Long Path Extension from Thacher Park to Orsini Park)** responds to our Comprehensive Plan's directive to "explore current and future siting of the Long Path to benefit Altamont recreation and businesses." Completing this connection would place Altamont on one of the most significant long-distance hiking corridors in the Northeast.
- **Initiative 4 (Bozenkill Park to the MHLC Bozen Kill Preserve) and Initiative 8 (Altamont Village Loop)** realize the Comprehensive Plan's vision of green space linkages throughout the Village and the creation of a broader network of corridors that protect natural resources and contribute to the quality of life of our residents.
- **Initiative 6 (Voorheesville to Altamont Rail-with-Trail)** is a project the Village has supported conceptually since the 2006 Comprehensive Plan called for converting the Delanson–Voorheesville rail line into a multi-use path connecting Altamont to the Helderberg-Hudson Rail Trail. Its designation as a "core trail" by the Capital Region Transportation Council underscores the regional significance of this connection.

Beyond these specific alignments, the Trail Plan's broader vision reflects the community character and values at the heart of our Comprehensive Plan. This includes goals such as such as creating a greenbelt that buffers suburban sprawl, connecting residents to natural and cultural resources, and positioning Altamont as a hub within a regional trail network. Altamont has always taken pride in its walkable scale, its scenic setting below the Helderberg Escarpment, and its strong sense of place. The Trails Plan is a powerful vehicle for preserving and celebrating all those qualities, as we have previously outlined in our Comprehensive Plan.

The Village of Altamont looks forward to working in partnership with Historic Altamont, the Town of Guilderland, Albany County, and other regional stakeholders to advance the initiatives outlined in this Plan. In addition, we commend the volunteer members of Historic Altamont for their dedication to this community. The Altamont Trails Master Plan is a testament to what thoughtful civic engagement can accomplish.

Sincerely,

Kerry Dineen
Mayor

Nicholas Fahrenkopf
Deputy Mayor/Trustee

Michelle Ganance
Trustee

Sandra Serafino
Trustee

John Scally
Trustee