



City of Saratoga Springs
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***** PRESS RELEASE *****

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“THE APPELLATE COURT REJECTION OF SEGMENTED ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW OF SARATOGA HOSPITAL’S IMPACT ON A RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOOD HIGHLIGHTS THE DECEPTION AND FAILURE OF THE FORMER MAYOR AND CITY ATTORNEY” SAYS CURRENT MAYOR RON KIM.

SARATOGA SPRINGS, NY --- Yesterday, the Third Judicial Department Appellate Division issued a decision and order firmly rejecting former Mayor Meg Kelly’s position, as advocated by the former City Attorney, Vincent DeLeonardis, that they had properly performed an environmental impact analysis prior to approving a Zoning change to a residential neighborhood parcel on which Saratoga Hospital seeks to build an 80,000 square foot office facility.

Current Mayor Ron Kim stated: “In rejecting the former Mayor and City Attorney’s attempt to ram this re-zoning through without taking a ‘hard look’ at the environmental impacts, the appellate court recognized the lack of transparency and stomach-churning duplicity of the former administration and City Attorney.” Kim continued: “declaring that there would be no environmental impact to re-zoning a residential parcel so that an 80,000 square foot office building could be built, by pretending that the project doesn’t exist, even though everyone knew that was the only reason the zoning change was being pursued by the former Mayor and City Attorney, is gas lighting extraordinaire and was correctly rejected by the appellate court.”

"Keep in mind that former Mayor Kelly called a special City Council meeting only days after winning her re-election bid to pass this re-zoning amendment, and without hesitation denied when questioned by then Commissioner John Franck that this re-zoning was for a specific project," said Kim who recently reviewed the videotape of the City Council meeting which can be found here:

<http://saratogaspringsny.swagit.com/play/12232019-670>

"Sadly, this now declared illegal action by the former Mayor and City Attorney has done a disservice to the Morgan Street neighborhood, the City of Saratoga Springs and Saratoga Hospital" remarked Mayor Kim. Kim concluded: "Regretfully, instead of looking for ways to adequately protect residential neighbors in the northern part of our City, while working with Saratoga Hospital to make sure they can continue to respond to the growth of our community and the changes in healthcare, the City and residents have wasted time, money and resources trying to defend indefensible duplicity and deception. As Mayor I look forward to working with all interested parties to find solutions."