

**Appendix 22**  
**Comments and Responses to Comments**  
**from a Public Hearing held October 27, 2022**  
**and Public Comment Period**

This appendix provides a summary of all comments received regarding the public review period for the Project environmental review documents which were released for public review on October 14, 2022, along with responses thereto. The environmental review documents included drafts of Parts 2 and 3 of the Full Environmental Assessment Form prepared for the Project pursuant to SEQR which included a Technical Addendum summarizing the potential environmental impacts of the Project (“TA”). In addition, the following plans, reports and other relevant documentation were appended to the TA:

- Project Plans;
- Lead Agency Notice (including Part 1 of Full Environmental Assessment Form);
- Summary of Sustainable Design Elements;
- Public Comments and Responses;
- Alternatives Analysis;
- Lighting Design Narrative;
- Geotechnical Engineering Assessment Report;
- Ecological Review;
- Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment;
- Preliminary Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan;
- Phase 1A Archaeological Investigation and Consultation Correspondence;
- Water and Sanitary Sewer Report;
- Electrical Demand Narrative;
- WJHW Environmental Sound Study;
- GHD Noise Impact Study;
- Traffic Management Plan;
- Traffic Assessment;
- Demolition Mitigation Plan;
- Viewshed Analysis;
- Photosimulations;
- Historic Survey;
- Draft Letter of Resolution;
- New Stadium Rendering;
- Revised Part 1 of the Full Environmental Assessment Form;
- and

- OPRHP Comments on Phase 1A Archaeological Investigation.

A summary of each comment received is provided below, along with responses to each (responses are in italics). Additionally, at the end of this document, each of the comments received are provided in the format received, including a complete transcript of the Public Hearing held on October 27, 2022.

1. COMMENT SUMMARY: **Public Funding 1** Many commenters expressed opposition to the proposed public funding for the New Stadium. Some representative comments are as follows:

I am very much against spending tax revenue on this stadium. It is outrageous to me that you would spend so much money on something that isn't necessary, doesn't keep us safe, will not be used by most New Yorkers. The owners are billionaires. They don't pay state and local property taxes. And the rich get richer off the backs of the little guy. Hypocrite Democrats. I hope this deal does not happen with our money.

For the owners of the Buffalo Bills to hold Western New York hostage, again, with a threat of taking the Bills elsewhere unless the billionaire owners received another \$850 Million of public money up front, is a pretty bold demand. For the Bills' owners, as well as the State of New York and Erie County, to in turn make no real commitment to return some of what will be billions of dollars in Buffalo Bills profit from the new stadium in any concrete way to enhance the prosperity of Western New Yorkers, seems like a betrayal at best.

[I] am against spending tax payers money for a new stadium so all the profits go into the Pegulas pockets and roads are driving in mine fields except around the stadium and they are smooth as a babies butt . Plus how much is it going to cost the tax payers for each game.

I just read in the buff News this am that the Tennessee Titans football Team is contributing 300\$ million more dollars to their new stadium project in Tennessee than the Buffalo Bills football team is contributing to their new stadium here in Buffalo. Hmm... seems like the Pegulas should be on the line to contribute millions more to make this stadium more environmentally friendly and LEEDS compliant- it can be done- the money is there - Mr Pegula is worth billions- how incredibly sad if they are not asked to step up for the future of this community and his team. You may say that asking them to do so is out of the SEQOR realm- but if not you- then who???? Thank you

Absolutely NO!!!! We are being blackmailed!! Somehow, by way of some miracle, we are able to play the 2022 season in the current stadium. Something tells me that, if we tried, we could play next year there too, and the next 10 years as well. Bills don't like it? PLEASE, PLEASE GO ELSEWHERE AND PREY ON THE TAXPAYERS THERE

RESPONSE: **Public Funding 1** *As noted on page 2 of the Full Environmental Assessment Form Technical Addendum dated October 14, 2022 and revised November 23, 2022 ("TA"), the Team, ECSC, and the County are parties to a Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") dated March 29, 2022 (included as part of Appendix 2 of the TA) which sets forth certain proposed actions including funding for the Project. As detailed on page 3 of the TA, the anticipated total project budget, including demolition of the Existing Stadium, infrastructure, and parking is \$1.4B. ECSC will contribute \$600M to the Project, and the County will contribute \$250M. The Team will contribute the remainder of the Project budget and will bear the monetary risk related to any cost overruns beyond the \$1.4B Project budget. While these comments are acknowledged, the issue of whether the State and County should provide funding for the New Stadium concern matters that are outside of the scope of SEQRA review for the New Stadium, which is meant to assess the significance of the potential environmental impacts associated with the Project.*

2. COMMENT SUMMARY: **Public Funding 2** One commenter expressed concern about the use of unions to build the new stadium instead of using non-union labor which, in the commenter's view, would be less expensive. "Shame on the county executive for allowing unions to build the stadium instead of saving money by using non-union employees. It would be cheaper not to use union. It's time to start thinking about us the taxpayers or everyone of you will be voted out who support wasting more than needs to be wasted."

RESPONSE: **Public Funding 2** *There will be a Project Labor Agreement ("PLA") for construction of the New Stadium. PLA's are well established in New York State as a means of managing large public construction projects effectively helping to ensure quality construction, deliver projects on-time; and ultimately, save taxpayer money. The PLA will not require exclusive use of union labor and, in fact, it is typical for construction projects governed by a PLA to have a mix of union and non-union labor. Nonetheless, this comment concerns matters that are outside of the scope of SEQRA review for the New Stadium, which is meant to assess the significance of the potential environmental impacts associated with the Project.*

3. COMMENT SUMMARY: **CBA 1** One commenter stated that community groups of Buffalo are upset that they have not been included in the CBA discussions and asked if there will be an opportunity for these community groups to offer input on a proposed CBA before one is agreed to.

RESPONSE: **CBA 1** *As noted on page 3 of the TA, there will be a Community Benefits Agreement ("CBA") to help ensure that the New Stadium will benefit not only the Team, but all segments of the local community, including historically underserved communities within the*

*County. The public is represented in the CBA discussion via a bipartisan group of elected officials. The public is welcome to, and has been for some time, providing thoughts and recommendations for the CBA.*

4. COMMENT SUMMARY: **CBA 2** A number of commenters shared thoughts and recommendations about specific issues that should be addressed in the CBA. Some representative comments are as follows:

One commenter stated that they hope Pegula Sports and Entertainment (PS&E) sees a long-term partnership with the Buffalo community by participating in the CBA discussions, how it could represent changes for Western New York that could last for decades built into a project that is already planned to go through, and that it can be representative for Buffalo's national and international leadership in the community building, genuine civic engagement, and a smart public/private partnership.

As a Western New Yorker who remember that the Bills got their start on the East Side of Buffalo, on the site of the Johnny B. Wiley complex, we appreciate our Bills and we ask that the Bills owners, Erie County, and New York State, commit to the following so that more of us are prosperous enough to enjoy going to a Bills game:

- \$500 Million over the course of 30 years to be disbursed annually into community grants for Youth Mentoring, Health Equity, Affordable Housing, and Student Athletics.
- CBA Community Governance, an annual RFP process for the public, annual public hearings, members shall have voting power on financial decisions, and a public application process for members of the CBA oversight committee to be appointed fairly.
- A public transportation plan that includes free workforce shuttles, a public transit port inside the stadium complex, pedestrian walkways on the roads outside the stadium, and countywide bus route improvements so that all WNYers can access the new stadium for work and entertainment.
- Vendor contact inclusion for marginalized communities within construction, supplies, retail, and post-construction employment

The opportunity to significantly reduce vehicle trips by locating the stadium in the city was gravely missed. Therefore, to mitigate the induced emissions of CO2 by continuing to locate a sea of parking lots in a rural setting, a significant contribution of the CBA should be directed towards improving the NFTA in the City of Buffalo and ridership opportunities to the stadium. Improving the NFTA transit to the stadium would contribute to reducing vehicle trips to the stadium thus mitigating CO2 emissions. The CBA should and needs to be a community-

centered process, closed-door negotiations benefits no one besides those in the room.

RESPONSE: **CBA 2** *These thoughts and recommendations about specific issues that should be addressed in the CBA are appreciated and have been shared with all parties working on the CBA.*

5. COMMENT SUMMARY: **CBA 3** One commenter inquired on the climate and sustainable elements of the County's negotiations with the Bills during CBA discussions. The comment specifically asked, "are climate or sustainable elements part of the County's negotiations with the Bills, or the CBA discussions?"

RESPONSE: **CBA 3** *As explained on pages 6-7, and Appendix 3, of the TA, the New Stadium will incorporate several sustainability measures that are more environmentally sensitive than the Existing Stadium including newer electrical systems, water conservation measures, improved HVAC systems, and increased greenspaces. Newer technologies that are more energy efficient than existing systems will be employed throughout the Site. LED video displays used in the seating bowl and concourses are more energy efficient than previously made models, thus using less electricity per square foot than the existing systems. More energy efficient LED lighting fixtures will be used, and a more extensive lighting control system will minimize the use of electricity and conserve energy when areas are unoccupied. The use of shielded LED light fixtures and the roof canopy will greatly diminish skyglow and provide a more wildlife-friendly environment.*

*Reduced water consumption toilet fixtures and flush valves will be used to decrease the amount of water used by the New Stadium during events as compared to the Existing Stadium, and also reduce the amount of sanitary waste volume created during events. Low water use landscape technology will be utilized throughout the Site. The New Stadium is expected to use approximately 135,000 gallons of water on game and event days (as compared to approximately 210,000 gallons used for game and event days at the Existing Stadium), and the New Stadium Complex is expected to use overall approximately 15 million gallons of water per year (as compared to approximately 20 million gallons per year for the Existing Stadium Complex). Higher-efficiency water heaters and pumping systems as compared to existing systems will be utilized for generating and distributing domestic hot water throughout the New Stadium.*

*An improved building envelope using high performance glazing and increased exterior thermal insulation will reduce heating and cooling loads for interior spaces. Improved HVAC automated controls and use of higher efficiency equipment including the use of airside economizers on all air handling systems will increase the New Stadium's energy efficiency and optimize its performance. The Building Management System will incorporate energy-saving schemes such as economizer optimization (based on both outdoor air dry bulb and enthalpy), demand-controlled ventilation, demand limiting to minimum electric demand charges, and occupancy setpoints to optimize energy efficiency for varying occupancy schedules in a transient stadium facility. The mechanical equipment will incorporate variable pumping and fan control schemes, supply air temperature reset, heating water temperature reset, energy recovery, and efficient electronically communicated and premium efficiency motors.*

*The New Stadium Project will result in an increase of landscaped areas, improvements to the pedestrian experience and a reduction in the urban heat island effect. Bioswale retention areas will be used to treat and reduce the amount of stormwater runoff. During demolition, the Existing Stadium's concrete structure will be ground up and recycled as fill material within its existing bowl area to reduce off-Site waste. Excavated clean and suitable soils maybe reused off-Site, at the County's discretion, as a source of clean cover material and fill for other County projects. In addition, various elements are being considered for potential reuse and recycling. Many of the large boulders used as vehicle barriers around the site will be reused on the new site. Various other parts of the Existing Stadium will be evaluated for retention, reuse or recycling to try and minimize the need for off-site disposal.*

*In addition, as noted in the TA, in terms of the potential environmental impacts of the New Stadium, these sustainability measures will make the New Stadium far more sustainably built than the Existing Stadium which it will replace. This comment has been shared with all parties working on the CBA.*

6. COMMENT SUMMARY: **New Stadium Design Suggestion 1** Several commenters raised concern about the New Stadium not being LEED certified. Some representative comments are as follows:

"I have serious concerns with the lead planner on this project. Who is dictating the design for this new NFL stadium? Poloncarz is cheaping out at the expense of everything that is good leadership. Seems like shortcuts all around to support a natural gas mogul's wishes without much consideration for the taxpayer dollars or ongoing, resource-sucking footprint this stadium will have on people and the environment. (That's what it seems like.) "Bills stadium NOT seeking LEED certification" article:

<https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.wgrz.com/amp/article/news/investigations/investigative-post/bills-stadium-to-be-a-paler-shade-of-green-buffalo-money-football-sports/71-c9023359-a629-431f-9cd1-f0eda28ea942>. At the state and local level, our government system is squandering the biggest opportunity New York has to be a true leader and make a statement in green design. Not seeking LEED cert is, frankly, trash planning. I am a taxpayer. Please do better.

I just reviewed the SEQR information for the new Bills stadium. I did not see any information re LEEDS a certification??? I'd think it is a terrible mistake to not pursue this. We need to create the greenest and friendliest stadium possible- like other teams have done - Nationals Park in DC, Mercedes Benz Park in Georgia, Levi's Stadium in California, American Airlines Arena in Florida. Anything less is really not acceptable.

Hmmm... seems like the Pegulas should be on the line to contribute millions more to make this stadium more environmentally friendly and LEEDS compliant- it can be done- the money is there - Mr Pegula is worth billions- how

incredibly sad if they are not asked to step up for the future of this community and his team. You may say that asking them to do so is out of the SEQOR realm- but if not you- then who???? Thank you

RESPONSE: **New Stadium Design Suggestion 1** *These comments are acknowledged. However, LEED is only one of many ways to incorporate sustainable design practices into a project. For a discussion of the sustainable design elements incorporated into the Project, please see response to Comment CBA 3 above, and Appendix 3 of the TA.*

7. COMMENT SUMMARY: **New Stadium Design Suggestion 2** Several commenters stated that the New Stadium should be designed with a dome or roof system to enclose the building during winter months. Some representative comments are as follows:

My personal opinion they have missed the mark with the design of the new stadium. The stadium should be able to be used year round which includes the winter months. Maybe we could have gotten a college bowl game and call it the Buffalo Blizzard Bowl. Or maybe on New Year's Eve have a huge carnival in the stadium and think about this maybe some of our seniors want to go to the game but due to medical conditions can't handle the elements. Or winter concerts, I just wish they would have seriously considered a domed stadium.

I think that to not build a new Buffalo Bills Stadium without a dome is a Very, Very Big mistake. We are missing out on a great opportunity to make Western New York a great place to watch the Bills and attend concerts and other events and even future NFL Superbowls. Why waste this great opportunity to build a world class facility that will not only satisfy the Bill's fan Mafia base but also allow great music events and many other great events all year round. Please don't miss this opportunity to get a lot of additional revenue and I mean a lot of additional revenue back into this regional are for many many years to come. Please don't be shortsighted in this venture. This means a very great opportunity for Buffalo and all of western New York to prosper in the many years to come.

I find it hard to believe Kathy Hochul statement that she says the fans want an open air stadium. Nashville just announced they are building a new dome stadium and they're in a much warmer climate than Buffalo. Why can't we have the best if we are going to put this kind of money into a facility anyhow. Too bad people didn't want to try and build it downtown where they could connected to downtown with a Dome. You could make it a convention Center stadium concert venue use for 365 days a year and employing many people instead of nine or 10 football games, and a couple of concerts

RESPONSE: **New Stadium Design Suggestion 2** *These comments are acknowledged. However, the issue of whether the New Stadium should have a dome or roof is outside of the scope of SEQRA review for the New Stadium, which is meant to assess the significance of the potential environmental impacts of the Project.*

8. COMMENT SUMMARY: **New Stadium Design Suggestion 3** One commenter suggested that commemorative markers be placed in the new parking lots to be constructed on the site of the Existing Stadium after it is demolished at midfield and the end zones. Another suggested that, at one time, before the remodel of the Existing Stadium, there was a plaque that honored our service people on a big rock, but the rock was removed. He suggested that a new plaque be installed honoring veterans.

RESPONSE: **New Stadium Design Suggestion 3** *Final detailed plans for the parking area to be developed on the footprint of the Existing Stadium are still being developed. However, both of these comments will be taken into consideration as detailed plans for the New Stadium Complex are finalized.*

9. COMMENT SUMMARY: **New Stadium Design Suggestion 4** One commenter suggested that the design of the New Stadium should be a more intimate place with unique features such as a single tier end zone. The comment specifically states: "The design is a missed opportunity to create something unique, and intimidating. Get the fans closer, think of a design that can help create an atmosphere better and improve as much as you can to ensure any noise reverberates around the stadium. I'm personally a big fan of a single tier stand behind one of the end zones but use some more imagination to make this unique. I'm not saying more expensive, but make it stand out from the rest of the stadiums out there."

RESPONSE: **New Stadium Design Suggestion 4** *This comment is acknowledged. However, this comment concerns matters that are outside of the scope of SEQRA review for the New Stadium, which is meant to assess the significance of the potential environmental impacts of the Project.*

10. COMMENT SUMMARY: **New Stadium Design Suggestion 5** One commenter stated that the seating arrangements in the Existing Stadium makes many fans stand in their seats, making it hard to see from rows behind and suggested that the New Stadium be laid out the like Baltimore Ravens's stadium to create better flow in the New Stadium. The comment specifically states, "LAYOUT: There is frustration where many fans need to stand the whole game (or much of it) to see. A layout like Baltimore has, helps minimize this with added breaks between sections, doubling as a space for pedestrian traffic too. THIS IS A HUGE HELP. as it creates more seats with unobstructed viewing so people are less inclined to stand."

RESPONSE: **New Stadium Design Suggestion 5** *This comment is acknowledged. However, this comment concerns matters that are outside of the scope of SEQRA review for the*



*New Stadium, which is meant to assess the significance of the potential environmental impacts of the Project.*

11. COMMENT SUMMARY: **New Stadium Design Suggestion 6** One commenter wishes the New Stadium renderings that were released on October 27, 2022 were less modern and would have a classical architecture style with classy aesthetics. The comment specifically stated, “I don't want to see a totally modern stadium that looks like a snake head popping up out of the ground. Why couldn't you use modern materials, but still maintain a new-classical architectural style? That is the superior building style, because classic aesthetics incorporates the Golden Mean and other “sacred geometry”. What you propose is a postmodern monstrosity.”

RESPONSE: **New Stadium Design Suggestion 6** *This comment is acknowledged. However, this comment concerns matters that are outside of the scope of SEQRA review for the New Stadium, which is meant to assess the significance of the potential environmental impacts of the Project. Notably, the exterior is designed in vertical sections that are reminiscent of mid-20th century Buffalo architecture, including Buffalo Memorial Auditorium, Kleinhans Music Hall and War Memorial Stadium. And with function in mind, the shaped roofline gives the New Stadium an aerodynamic form as a way to help drive Lake Erie winds over the facility, rather than to swirl around inside the bowl, as it does in the Existing Stadium.*

12. COMMENT SUMMARY: **New Stadium Design Suggestion 7** One commenter wishes the New Stadium would have larger seats, bleacher seats, or bench seats without arm rests or cup holders. The comment specifically states, “I became a season ticket holder in 2018 after I was able to have weekends off for the first time in my life. I love the Bills and I'm Thankful they were kept in Buffalo. I am 6 foot tall, and 300lbs (I know you understand size given you are a professional football team) I sit in the bleacher seats of section 225 and its perfect. Please consider a spot in the stadium for bleachers or seats without arm rests, I don't mind squishing to fit in the seat but to sit in a seat with arm rests that dig into your hips and leave you black and blue all week. I often buy two seats when I travel or sit business class just to fit. I know there are people bigger than me and taller than me and I know they would appreciate it. Also, please do not put a cup holder where your knees would go, like in the Keybank Center, I can't go to a Sabres game because I know I can't fit because a cup holder jots out where a tall persons legs should go. Just some feedback from me, Thank you and Go Bills!”

RESPONSE: **New Stadium Design Suggestion 7** *The New Stadium will not have bleacher seating and will provide wider seat spacing than the existing bleachers which typically have seat positions approximately 18” apart. It will typically have 19” wide stadium seats in the general reserved seating areas and 21” wide seats in the premium club seating areas. The New Stadium will also have deeper tread depths of 34” versus the 30” deep treads in the Existing Stadium. There will be a minimum of 1% of the stadium seats that have operable arms with at least 5% of the seats located adjacent to aisles having arms that lift up.*

13. COMMENT SUMMARY: **New Stadium Design Suggestion 8** One commenter hopes the new stadium's design ensures noise reverberations around the stadium will be improved for fan enjoyment, specifically stating, "the design is a missed opportunity to create something unique, and intimidating. Get the fans closer, think of a design that can help create an atmosphere better and improve as much as you can to ensure any noise reverberates around the stadium. I'm personally a big fan of a single tier stand behind one of the end zones but use some more imagination to make this unique. I'm not saying more expensive, but make it stand out from the rest of the stadiums out there."

RESPONSE: **New Stadium Design Suggestion 8** *This comment is acknowledged. The New Stadium has been designed to significantly enhance the fan experience on Game Day as compared to the Existing Stadium. Nonetheless, this comment concerns matters that are outside of the scope of SEQRA review for the New Stadium, which is meant to assess the significance of the potential environmental impacts of the Project.*

14. COMMENT SUMMARY: **New Stadium Design Suggestion 9** One commenter expressed appreciation for the nod to history with the design of the New Stadium with the renderings that came out October 27, 2022 which incorporate features that acknowledge Klienhans's Music Hall, the Memorial Auditorium, and War Memorial Stadium.

RESPONSE: **New Stadium Design Suggestion 8** *This comment is acknowledged.*

15. COMMENT SUMMARY: **Auxiliary Building 1** One commenter was concerned about the visual and weather impacts that the auxiliary building may have on his property. The commenter is mainly concerned about the snow drop off the auxiliary building stating, "[t]he support building really hasn't been decided if it's going to be one story, two stories, 75,000 square feet or up to 150,000 square feet. My concern is also it's kind of confusing. Some of the pictures that I see in there, the building will be right near my property line and it also shows it's near the bath house which is about 220 feet away from my property line and as the snow goes over the building 220 feet, yeah, the snow can drop down, my property won't be effected whatsoever if it is moved back to that part."

RESPONSE: **Auxiliary Building 1** *As noted on page 7 of the TA, this Auxiliary Building will house stadium operations and infrastructure functions adjacent to the Site's service entry that also connects to the Team's current operations on the east side of Abbott Road via One Bills Drive. The specific location of the new auxiliary building is shown on Figure 1 in the TA. In terms of potential impacts to the adjacent private lot, as noted in responses to comments from the public scoping meeting (Appendix 4 to the TA), the Auxiliary Building will not impact private property in and around the Site and snow and wind conditions are anticipated to be consistent with existing conditions at the Existing Stadium given the similarities in location, use and scale with the New Stadium. Specifically regarding this commenter's property, the Stadium is about*

*550' north of their property line and the prevailing winds are from the southwest during the winter months, thus the New Stadium should not have a snow or wind effect on their property.*

16. COMMENT SUMMARY: **Demolition 1** One commenter inquired about the Existing Stadium's demolition and when it happens will any of the Existing Stadium be reused or recycled into the New Stadium Complex.

RESPONSE: **Demolition 1** *As noted on page 7 of the TA, during demolition, almost all of the excavated material will be reused and remain on the Site. During demolition, the Existing Stadium's concrete structure will be ground up and recycled as fill material within its existing bowl area to reduce off-Site waste. This will reduce the need for soil import and reduce truck traffic. In addition, various elements are being considered for potential reuse and recycling. Many of the large boulders used as vehicular barriers around the site will be reused on the new site. Any metal and concrete materials not suitable for reuse on the Site will be recycled off-Site. Excavated clean and suitable soils maybe reused off-Site, at the County's discretion, as a source of clean cover material and fill for other County projects. Various other parts of the Existing Stadium will be evaluated for retention, reuse or recycling to try and minimize the need for off-site disposal.*

17. COMMENT SUMMARY: **Demolition 2** One commenter asked if the Existing Stadium will be demolished once the New Stadium is fully operational.

RESPONSE: **Demolition 2** *As noted on page 8 of the TA, the Existing Stadium will be demolished once construction of the New Stadium is complete.*

18. COMMENT SUMMARY: **Alternative Location 1** Several commenters stated that the new stadium's location should be downtown or in east Buffalo and not in Orchard Park due to the infrastructure downtown, the recent development of the downtown area and to revitalize the east Buffalo area. Some representative comments are as follows:

Since we the taxpayers are on hook for 800 + million dollars at least put a roof on it so it can be used for more than 8 games a year. Also, the current stadium has been in OP for 50 years with very little development around it (Tim Hortons, fly by night motels and bars). Building the stadium downtown at the rumored location of the outdated and boarded up Perry Projects would have brought a ton of people downtown and given existing restaurants, hotels and the Casino a huge boost. What amount of new development would have happened around a downtown stadium?

We are making the mistake of a lifetime by putting the stadium out here in Orchard Park. We had March Madness here this past March or April, whatever. How many comments did we hear in the community that people that hadn't been here in Buffalo for how many years came back and the comments towards the difference in the area downtown, the improvements that were made. We

don't need a destination out here in Orchard Park. It's taken a long time to get things done downtown. Now we're going to drag development away from there? Now, I'm not here to talk about the Perry Projects because that's a timely, costly thing. One of the lots is just across the street, where the infrastructure is going to be better, where there were buildings built there where we don't have to worry about artifacts. It's not just put the shovel in the ground for a \$1.4 billion project. It's a little more involved than that, but there is basically no difference going downtown and build it down there. Now, the tracks that go down here across 20 and into Orchard Park out into Hamburg, I'm not going to get into all the transportation. Anybody that tells me -- I have had conversations and talked to people one on one, five on one, whatever, to get to the hub of downtown. Downtown is the hub of the area. Orchard Park is not. We had the 190. We have the 33. We have Delaware Avenue. We have rapid transit. It wouldn't take hardly anything to get these lines -- the tracks are all there. They go right to the Amtrak station. It's a matter of whether we want to go diesel or electric or whatever, but the tracks will get you right there to the Amtrak station and I talked to one of the politicians' office a few years ago about going down to the DL&W when they were talking about the overhead walkway and now they're working on that to get the light rail down through there and beyond there out the east side of it.

The central terminal makes a great site which signifies the great Buffalo architecture of the roaring 20's. Use 75% of the structure as the entrance to the field. You could never afford to build a piece of architecture like that again. There are miles of train tracks to repurpose for parking and highway connections. It revitalizes the depleted east side of Buffalo. No one in the league could produce a piece like the central terminal.

With all of the available real estate on the East Side of Buffalo, why isn't the stadium being built in a location that would be most beneficial to the communities who need the economic boon? Think of all the new shops and attractions that could be developed in a several-miles radius of a new Buffalo Bills Stadium? Orchard Park is already upper-middle class region; it doesn't need the extra economy like the City of Buffalo needs it. If taxpayers' dollars are being applied, shouldn't economic benefit to the most people be of central concern??

You can tell a lot about a region's values and the quality of its leadership by where and how its civic buildings are constructed. These days, this applies perhaps most particularly to professional sports stadiums. As mounds of evidence demonstrate, the only way a stadium can generate meaningful and sustained spinoff economic activity is by locating it downtown or in a similarly connected urban environment. An isolated, suburban, automobile-oriented site

induces essentially zero attendant economic or cultural benefits. If we indeed desire negligible return on a massive public investment, then the current location in Orchard Park is the perfect choice. In comparison, a downtown or downtown-adjacent location is the best choice for an array of well-established reasons. All of the region's major highways converge there. Downtown is the hub for all regional transit – buses and light rail – and all planned connections to U.B North Campus, Niagara Falls, as well as inter-regional transportation like Amtrak and the metro line to the airport. There's more than enough space – the destructive “urban renewal” schemes of the past have cleared-out vast swaths of land in and near downtown, creating fallow wastelands for decades, but perfect for the rare project of this scope. A new city-center stadium complex would be walkable to existing attractions and amenities, including Canalside and the Outer Harbor, Harborcenter and KeyBank Center, and downtown restaurants, bars, hotels, stores, and other businesses. As seen in other cities, this would create a mutually beneficial cycle of new investment and vitality, stabilizing and strengthening the admittedly fragile revival already taking place downtown, and extending the stadium's impact well beyond the mere handful of football games and other events that annually take place there. It would add real value to both the city and region. It would signal to the nation that the Buffalo area truly has its act together and is moving in a decisively positive direction.

**RESPONSE: Alternative Location 1** *As detailed on page 10 of the TA, in considering the location for the New Stadium, several alternatives were evaluated by the Team over nearly a decade, from 2013 to 2022. This included renovating the Existing Stadium Complex (multiple renovation options were evaluated), building the New Stadium (roofed, open air, and roof-ready were considered), selecting a new location in proximity to Downtown Buffalo (“**Downtown Alternative**”), and relocating the Bills to a new market. Preliminary evaluations were conducted to identify potential locations in the greater Buffalo region that could support a NFL stadium and game experience. Specifically, one of the Downtown Alternative sites, a 34-acre site located in the City of Buffalo’s First Ward (“**South Park Site**”) was considered by the Team as a potentially viable alternative. In consideration of a myriad of factors including but not limited to existing Team facilities and infrastructure on and around the Existing Stadium Complex, difficulty of land acquisition, land use compatibility, timing implications, and cost, the Team decided to locate the New Stadium in close proximity to the Existing Stadium Complex. To aid decision-makers and the public in understanding why a location adjacent to the Existing Stadium was selected over the Downtown Alternative, a more detailed discussion of the Downtown Alternative is included in Appendix 5 of the TA. This includes a discussion of the socioeconomic impacts of the Project in the proposed Orchard Park location in comparison to developing the New Stadium at the South Park Site. It also includes information from an environmental site assessment of the South Park Site. In summary, the Downtown stadium sites posed potential significant adverse impacts from displacement of persons and businesses, and the imposition of significant levels of noise and traffic on an already existent community, whereas in the current location there will not be a need to dislocate any persons or businesses, and the fabric of the local community was built up around the Existing Stadium over the course*

*of the last 50 years. Thus moving the Existing Stadium from Orchard Park to Downtown could have substantial adverse impacts on local businesses in Orchard Park, would displace persons and business in any alternative location and would impose significant new noise and traffic (and other impacts) upon those that remained.*

19. COMMENT SUMMARY: **SEQRA Process 1** One commenter requested clarification on the SEQRA process specifically, the commenter stated that “The EAF indicates that the new stadium is a Type 1 action under SEQRA, that it will have significant impacts in a number of categories, and that Erie County will seek a negative declaration under SEQRA. Why is that appropriate?”

RESPONSE: **SEQRA Process 1** *The first step in the environmental review process is for the lead agency to classify the action. 6 N.Y.C.R.R. § 617.6(a). SEQRA mandates that this be performed as early as possible in an agency’s formulation of the action it proposes. 6 N.Y.C.R.R. § 617.6(a)(iv). Projects can be classified as Type I, Type II or Unlisted. A Type I action is one which is more likely to require a positive declaration and the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). 6 N.Y.C.R.R. § 617.4(a). Type II actions are those that have been determined not to have a significant adverse environmental impact, or are otherwise precluded from an environmental review. 6 N.Y.C.R.R. § 617.5(a). If a particular activity is neither Type I nor Type II, the activity is classified as an Unlisted action. 6 N.Y.C.R.R. § 617.2(ak).*

*As the commenter accurately notes, the Project is a Type I action. While a Type I action carries with it the presumption that it is likely to have a significant adverse impact on the environment, a lead agency may issue a negative declaration obviating the EIS requirement even for a Type I action if the agency “determines either that there will be no adverse environmental impacts or that the identified adverse environmental impacts will not be significant.” See 6 N.Y.C.R.R. § 617.7(a)(2).*

*In terms of the commenter’s statement that the EAF indicates that the new stadium will have significant impacts in a number of categories, this appears to be a misunderstanding of the draft part 2 of the EAF, which identifies a number of potentially moderate to large impacts for the Project. The purpose of Part 2 of the EAF is to use the information from Part 1 to identify potential adverse impacts that need further consideration by the reviewing agency. The questions included in the draft Part 2 of the EAF are designed to help the reviewing agency identify what, if any, impacts may occur as a result of the project. Part 2 of the EAF is further used to decide whether those impacts will have no impact or a small impact, or a moderate to large impact. The lead agency must complete Part 3 of the EAF for every question in Part 2 where the impact has been identified as potentially moderate to large or where there is a need to explain why a particular element of the proposed action will not, or may, result in a significant adverse environmental impact. Based on the analysis in Part 3, the lead agency must decide whether to require an environmental impact statement to further assess the proposed action or whether available information is sufficient for the lead agency to conclude that the proposed action will not have a significant adverse environmental impact.*

*The TA was prepared to fulfill the requirements of Part 3 of the EAF. The TA clearly analyzes all environmental impacts identified as potentially moderate to large in Part 2 of the EAF. After careful analysis, as noted in the TA, while a number of temporary and/or minor environmental impacts have been identified with the development of the New Stadium Complex when compared to existing baseline conditions, a thorough analysis of these potential impacts reveals that where necessary, such impacts have been mitigated to the greatest extent possible by the design of the New Stadium Complex and that none of these impacts will be significant. In fact, in many instances the New Stadium will improve existing environmental conditions (stormwater handling improvements, reductions in water/sewer use, reduced impacts to birds; reductions in noise and traffic during Game Day, etc.)*

20. COMMENT SUMMARY: **SEQRA Process 2** One commenter expressed support for a negative declaration for the SEQRA process, specifically stating, “As co-chair of the 25+ member Business Backs Buffalo Football committee, I write for the project record that our group has reviewed the publicly available lead agency package, technical addendums, and environmental impact assessment forms, and we are of the belief that no significant adverse environmental impacts exist as a result of the new stadium project. Furthermore, we believe that a determination of non-significance (Negative Declaration) should be prepared and that the project should proceed as rapidly as possible. The new stadium is critical to keeping NFL football and the Buffalo Bills franchise in Upstate New York for years to come. Thank you for the opportunity to submit this feedback.”

RESPONSE: **SEQRA Process 2** *This comment is acknowledged.*

21. COMMENT SUMMARY: **SEQRA Process 3** One commenter stated that the SEQRA process should have begun with where would the stadium be the most profitable, not where the owners of the Buffalo Bills would like it to be, specifically stating, “DEC SEQRA handbook: “all state and local ..agencies must consider environmental impacts equally with social and economic factors...” and the “DEIS must be prepared at a point “where genuine flexibility remains before bureaucratic momentum strips it of any real influence on decision making.” A SEQRA should have begun with the question: Do we need a new stadium? That question was never considered, nor was it really considered 'where' as it was clear where the owners wanted it.”

RESPONSE: **SEQRA Process 3** *While the commenter is quite correct that a DEIS must be prepared at a point where genuine flexibility remains before bureaucratic momentum strips it of any real influence on decision making, the environmental review for the Project began as soon as there were sufficient Project details available to begin an analysis of potential impacts and before any governmental agencies have committed to any specific actions associated with the Project (as the term “action” is defined by SEQRA). Moreover, a DEIS will only be prepared if the lead agency determines that the Project has the potential to have at least one significant adverse environmental impact. This determination is not arrived at solely by gathering data and making*

*calculations, but is ultimately a policy decision to be made by the SEQRA lead agency. As detailed in the TA, after careful analysis, while a number of temporary and/or minor environmental impacts have been identified with the New Stadium Complex when compared to existing baseline conditions, a thorough analysis of these potential impacts reveals that where necessary, such impacts have been mitigated to the greatest extent possible by the design of the New Stadium Complex and that none of these impacts will be significant. It is also noted, as discussed in response to comment Alternative Location 1, that alternatives to the construction of the New Stadium, including multiple renovation options for the Existing Stadium, were evaluated by the Team over nearly a decade, from 2013 to 2022.*

22. COMMENT SUMMARY: **Game Day Experience 1** One commenter noted that the ECC parking lot on Big Tree Road (Route 20A) currently experiences extensive tailgating and there is a lack of Porta-Potties. Specifically, the commenter stated, “The bigger issue for neighbors that was brought up by Bernie at the last meeting was the parking lot between those two entrances at ECC Campus is filled up always and it starts at 9:00 a.m., so you have people partying, tailgating for four hours and, of course, they have to use the bathroom. So what they ended up doing on Bernie’s property because he has a lot of evergreens is they would urinate all over his property, so he brought that up and in the time that I lived there there was always a Porta Potty. . . if we’re going to continue with tailgating in that lot or any of the others that are close by because there is another one off to the left that we at least place a Porta Potty at least at each corner so that frees it up.”

RESPONSE: **Game Day Experience 1** *Some commenters at the scoping meeting for the Project indicated similar concerns. As discussed in the responses to public comments from the scoping process (Appendix 4 to the TA), with respect to bathroom facilities, the need for additional bathroom facilities is being considered. The Bills’ Stadium Operations team continually evaluates parking capacities and pedestrian pathways to anticipate appropriate temporary toilet quantities and locations, and will continue to review and evaluate at the Existing Stadium as well as the New Stadium and adjust quantities and locations as appropriate.*

23. COMMENT SUMMARY: **Game Day Experience 2** One commenter is glad that the Team has great ownership but they are doing very well financially (Forbes list etc), while many fans are struggling to make ends meet. The commenter suggests: “if there are PSL's, THAT THEY BE STAGGERED BY SENIORITY, whereas the longer you have been a season ticket holder, the LESS EXPENSIVE the PSL should be, as you have paid your dues sitting through the good and that bad over the years This would show the team cares about its greatest supporters.”

RESPONSE: **Game Day Experience 2** *This comment is acknowledged. However, this comment concerns matters that are outside of the scope of SEQRA review for the New Stadium, which is meant to assess the significance of the potential environmental impacts of the Project.*



24. COMMENT SUMMARY: **Game Day Experience 3** One commenter stated that the Team is unpatriotic because members of the Team have kneeled during the National Anthem and for not accepting a Bills flag that was taken to Afghanistan. Specifically, the commenter stated, “I think it was the end of 2006 or end of 2007 season I bought a Bills flag. Brought it to the team. Most of the team signed it to include Dick Jauron, Trent Edwards. Mark Levy is on the flag. Took it to Afghanistan with the Bills Backers Club. Took some pictures in front of our dining facility because I couldn’t take pictures outside our installation. Didn’t want to give away our location. Sent it to the Bills while I was overseas. . . I’ve reached out to the Bills on numerous occasions to try to offer this flag, to try to present it to the NFL, to the Bills, my team, my team how valuable they are to the armed forces of the United States.”

RESPONSE: **Game Day Experience 3** *This comment is acknowledged. However, this comment concerns matters that are outside of the scope of SEQRA review for the New Stadium, which is meant to assess the significance of the potential environmental impacts of the Project.*

25. COMMENT SUMMARY: **Stormwater 1** One commenter inquired about the stormwater runoff rates being reduced by 18% when comparing the New Stadium Complex to the Existing Stadium Complex, if the County is pleased with that number, and if the County plans to do more to reduce stormwater runoff rates.

RESPONSE: **Stormwater 1** *The commenter is correct. As noted on page 34 of the TA, a stormwater pollution prevention plan (“SWPPP”) has been developed which includes permanent and temporary stormwater control measures to minimize stormwater runoff during construction and operation of the Project. Compared to existing conditions, there is overall an 18% reduction in peak stormwater runoff from the New Stadium Complex. During standard rain storms, there will be a 1% reduction in runoff to Smoke Creek, and a 30% reduction in runoff to Rush Creek Tributary. In addition to this reduction in water quantity, and unlike existing conditions, stormwater will be treated for water quality prior to discharge. Thus, there will be significant reduction in discharge runoff rates and significant improvement of discharge water quality. The storm water management system will provide treatment in accordance with NYSDEC criteria, and will control the peak runoff to Smoke Creek to rates at or below existing rates. The methods being employed will provide water quality treatment to address specific pollutants, such as phosphorus. This treatment will greatly enhance the quality of the post construction discharge as compared to current conditions. These proposed stormwater management practices include the building of six bioretention facilities, two wet ponds, an underground detection chamber, the use of hydrodynamic water quality units, and the use of impervious cover reduction with soil restoration practices.*

26. COMMENT SUMMARY: **Ecological 1** Many commenters expressed concern about the new stadium design renderings which were released by the Bills on October 27, 2022 and appear to show the outside of the New Stadium encased in glass. The commenters were very concerned that the glass would result in injury or death to birds. Some representative comments are as follows:

Renditions shown of the glass encased outside of the new stadium are causing a huge amount of concern due to the danger this glass design poses to migrating birds. Please ensure that the glass has proper anti-reflective, bird safe treatment applied to it, so that thousands of migrating birds do not die every week against these windows. What a horrible thing if Bills fans have to step over dead and dying birds writhing on the concrete when they walk in and out of games. As someone who lived for many years in New York City I can tell you this happens every morning during fall migration at the new World Trade Center buildings. It's traumatic to everyone who works there, even people who don't care about wildlife. And it's easily remedied, so please make sure this is handled properly. Thank you.

I am not from Buffalo but live in Toronto which is on the same migratory bird flight route. If the design proceeds as drawn without treating the glass with bird friendly fritting it will be a big problem for bird strikes. It's preventable if the proper care is taken with the glass.

Hello, I am extremely concerned about the proposed design of this building - specifically the risk it will pose to birds. Buffalo is on a major flight path for birds, and millions will migrate by the city. They get drawn in by light pollution, then are at risk of colliding with glass. The amount of glass in the proposed design mean that it will pose a threat to birds. Given that North America has lost almost a third of its birds in the last 50 years, the last thing we need is another threat. Luckily there's very simple solutions: patterned glass. This will break up the reflections that cause birds to collide, and allow them to identify that the glass is a solid object. While most bird-friendly glass has a simple dot pattern, you can also get creative and make the pattern with your logo or other symbols. Toronto used a pattern of athletic symbols for the bird-safe glass at the aquatics centre built for the PanAmerican Games, and a library in Ottawa has glass patterned with letters of the alphabet. Making this stadium bird-friendly would have a negligible cost compared to the overall budget, and ensures compliance with the Migratory Bird Act. It would also be a great PR story for your organization, and help spread the word about protecting wildlife.

Please use bird-safe glass for the outside windows. Buffalo sees millions of migratory birds every spring and fall. It will be a PR headache for the Bills when the birder groups constantly post about hundreds of dead birds outside the stadium every day. Bird safe glass is proven to prevent collisions and is used in construction projects all over the world.

There are millions of birds that pass through this fly way to migrate to as far as lower South America. A huge percentage of them don't make it due to window collision - glass buildings. These animals have to travel a great distance, find

food, shelter and avoid predation. Why do we need more glass? Aesthetics? How many birds have to die so that our (unwilled) tax payer funded building can reign in more money for the wealthy and provide mediocre (at best) jobs? - disgusted

Many commenters have expressed concerns regarding the potential impacts to birds due to the New Stadium renderings that came out on October 27, 2022, which at first glance, appear to be made out of glass. Many commenters have also expressed concerns about the lighting design affecting bird populations at night. Some representative comments are as follows:

Hi! The stadium is in a county that has already had 30 million federally protected migratory birds pass through this fall. If the large swaths of reflective glass shown on the stadium plans are not designed to be bird-friendly, the sidewalks and adjacent areas will be piled high with dead songbirds that have crashed into the glass. This will be traumatic for wildlife and for Bills' fans! PLEASE consider making this glass bird-friendly, and having stadium lighting that complies with bird-friendly practices. Do us proud and don't become a site known as a bird migration deathtrap!

Renditions shown of the glass encased outside of the new stadium are causing a huge amount of concern due to the danger this glass design poses to migrating birds. Please ensure that the glass has proper anti-reflective, bird safe treatment applied to it, so that thousands of migrating birds do not die every week against these windows. What a horrible thing if Bills fans have to step over dead and dying birds writhing on the concrete when they walk in and out of games. As someone who lived for many years in New York City I can tell you this happens every morning during fall migration at the new World Trade Center buildings. It's traumatic to everyone who works there, even people who don't care about wildlife. And it's easily remedied, so please make sure this is handled properly. Thank you.

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centre built for the PanAmerican Games, and a library in Ottawa has glass patterned with letters of the alphabet.

Making this stadium bird-friendly would have a negligible cost compared to the overall budget, and ensures compliance with the Migratory Bird Act. It would also be a great PR story for your organization, and help spread the word about protecting wildlife.

I am a college student studying conservation. The tall and highly reflected plate glass planned into the stadium's design will most certainly be a serious threat to birds, especially migratory birds. Please consider implementing bird-friendly design measures and mitigation techniques, such as visual markers on the glass and bird-friendly lighting design. Birds cannot distinguish between glass reflection and open space. Please protect our friends in flight!

The renderings of your new stadium show elevations that will use large amounts of reflected plate glass. As a citizen advocate for birds and other wildlife, I am deeply concerned that this design will pose a significant risk to migratory birds that may collide with the glass.

The dangers to birds posed by the use of such expanses of reflective glass are well known. Fortunately, there are numerous ways that these dangers can be mitigated if not completely eliminated. Bird-friendly design measures include using glass with visual markers as well as a bird-friendly lighting design for the stadium.

Please do not make the same mistake the Minnesota Vikings did in 2014, when they constructed a \$1 billion stadium without applying bird-safe measures which would have comprised just 0.1% of the total cost. Instead, they spent money to conduct a study that showed it's one of the city's most dangerous buildings for bird-window collisions, killing at least 111 birds a year. Now they are working to mitigate the problem.

Thank you for considering this important issue. Migratory birds currently face unprecedented challenges, and it is up to all of us to do what we can to help them.

**RESPONSE: Ecological 1** *These comments are acknowledged. At the outset, we note that virtually all of the comments seem to have a misunderstanding of the design of the New Stadium. The façade of the stadium is generally split into two horizontal curved bands of solid materials at its base, and perforated screens at the upper levels of the stadium. Primary exterior cladding materials include: perforated metal panels (approximately 43%), solid metal panels (approximately 25.5%), brick (approximately 19%), glass (approximately 9.5%), and concrete*

*(approximately 1.5%). The location of exterior glass has been strategically placed to maximize daylighting to key interior spaces at consolidated zones, is limited in height, and makes up just 10% of the overall exterior facade. Exterior glass is anticipated to be low-e and will not be highly reflective. In addition, where exterior glass is proposed, up to approximately 25% of the glass surface is located behind perforated metal panels.*

*Additionally, a lighting control system will turn off lights behind the glass when the space is not occupied, which will further reduce the transparency of the glass during evening hours. This will help further reduce impacts upon songbird migration (since songbird typically migrate at night). The lighting system will only be utilized when there are game days (12 a year) or special events (limited occurrences) at the New Stadium and will otherwise be turned off when not in use.*

*It is also noted that on page 5 of the lighting report there will be an integration of field lighting into the roof canopy, the partial enclosure of the New Stadium, the use of newer technology and lighting controls, LED light sources, warm color temperatures and dark-sky compliant lighting in the New Stadium to aid in wildlife protections. Further, the relocation of the New Stadium across the street will also reduce the impact of light on wildlife species potentially utilizing the Smokes Creek area to the east of the site of the Existing Stadium, especially during game days and special events. In summary, bird safety has been taken into account in the design of the New Stadium and a number of measures have been implemented to help ensure that the New Stadium has less impact on birds than the Existing Stadium.*

27. COMMENT SUMMARY: **Aesthetics 1** One commenter from the Manor Lane/Marilyn Dr. neighborhood stated that residents in their neighborhood had not had the opportunity to review a photo simulation to be able to evaluate the line of site impact on the neighborhood. This commenter also stated:

Currently the existing stadium is out of site. We would like a photo-simulation from the corner of Parker and Big Tree road and Kathleen and Big Tree road in order to further evaluate the line of site.

The new stadium is within the line of site from our neighborhood and should be considered to negatively affect the existing characteristic of the neighborhood. A positive declaration for SEQR in that it substantially negatively changes the character of the neighborhood should be issued.

The height of the stadium is proposed to be 50 ft higher than the top of the existing light towers. This will put it on high ground and highly visible to the neighborhood. When this is built it will negatively impact the community character as it is rather rural and quiet currently. There will be significant light and noise pollution more than the current stadium as there will be higher lights and more use.

The neighborhoods to the south will be negatively impacted by noise, light, dust pollution. The stadium will be in full sight.

We are requesting that a 100' large tree forested buffer zone be established along the entire south side of the limits of the project to provide greenspace , habitat, noise filtering, light filtering and dust filtering as the new stadium is much closer to residential areas than the existing. This would help mitigate the negative effects of pollution and community character.

Additionally we are specifically requesting that the greenspace that was deeded to the town of Hamburg on the southside of Big Tree Road between Parker and Manor Lane (adjacent to the Parker playground) be converted to a large densely planted evergreen forested area to mitigate the line of site negative aesthetic impact, noise, light and dust pollution that the construction and the final project will ultimately bring to our neighborhood. These mitigations are in concert with all town codes and county initiatives. Our quality of life in our neighborhood will be severely impacted, whether your studies show it or not. Put yourselves in our shoes and think about this massive construction project in your backyard. How would you think it would impact your neighborhood?

The least the state and the county and the owners can do is provide a natural forested buffer area between the mammoth structure and the residences around it. The current plan does absolutely nothing and ignores our concerns.

**RESPONSE: Aesthetics 1** *The commenter has expressed many concerns related to potential visual impacts to the Manor Lane/Marilyn Drive neighborhood. This neighborhood sits approximately 1,000 feet from the Existing Stadium Complex. As detailed in the TA, this neighborhood is one of six neighborhoods around the Existing Stadium Complex. As detailed on page 29 of the TA, this neighborhood includes a few residential homes on Big Tree Road to the South of ECC Campus and the New Stadium. There is one residential structure on a 40-acre parcel that is listed as being built in 1825 and another residential structure on a two-acre parcel as being built in 1820. Most of the residential structures closer to Abbott Road were built Post-World War II, in the 1960s and 1970s. In addition, there is one apartment complex in this neighborhood, located further west towards Southwestern Boulevard that was built in 1976. South of Big Tree Road is a subdivision that was built in the 1990s. To the west of Abbott Road there are three dead end streets consists of residential lots that vary in style and age, ranging from 1900s-1990s. Additionally, there is an apartment complex built in 2016. Viewshed analysis and photo-simulations to help demonstrate the visibility of the New Stadium were prepared from ECC Drive/Manor Lane at Big Tree Road, further west on Big Tree Road and from Parker and Harmony Way. This analysis shows limited visual impact from the New Stadium to the Manor Lane/Marilyn Drive area as compared to existing conditions. Certainly, the analysis does not support the commenter's contention that the construction of the New Stadium will have a significant adverse impact on this neighborhood, as compared to existing conditions and the significant additional visual screening requested by the commenter is not warranted under the circumstances.*

28. **COMMENT SUMMARY: Aesthetics 2** One commenter stated that the New Stadium will be taller because it is not subgrade as compared to the Existing Stadium which is currently subgrade. The comment specifically stated, "but in terms

of the structure, everyone should know--all fans should know our stadium that we are in right now, back in 1973--half of it is subgrade. Half of it is underground. If you sit in the lower bowl you're going down, so this structure is going to be--is going to look very tall. Of course it is. Because the other one is shorter. Half of it is underground. So you have to understand the massing that Populous had to work with here in order to build this. It's going to be at grade basically, so it's a taller facility."

RESPONSE: **Aesthetics 2** *As explained on page 4 of the TA, the New Stadium is taller by 50 feet as compared to the Existing Stadium's field lights. By way of clarification, the playing field of the New Stadium will be below grade. However, the main concourse that serves a large portion of the fans will be located at grade to create a more accessible and user-friendly entry experience in the New Stadium.*

29. COMMENT SUMMARY: **Aesthetics 3** A few commenters stated that the New Stadium renderings are very pleasing to the eye and have a nod towards the history of Buffalo. Some representative comments are as follows:

The rendering is absolutely beautiful. What the Pegulas have done and what your committee has done and everybody has made Buffalo a place to look at now, especially with the success of Josh Allen and the current Bills team. Let's hope that that continues to go on.

I really appreciate the little historical reference with regard to the vertical panes on there; certainly a nod to Kleinhan's Music Hall a little bit and Memorial Auditorium and War Memorial Stadium. I think with the vertical pillars there there's some representation there that people are really going to appreciate, so from an urban planning and design perspective, that is really respected and appreciate the design there.

RESPONSE: **Aesthetics 3** *These comments are acknowledged.*

30. COMMENT SUMMARY: **Transportation 1** One commenter stated that taxpayers are angry that roads in the Town of Orchard Park are in poor condition, but the roads around the Existing Stadium are well kept. The comment specifically stated, "[I] am against spending tax payers money for a new stadium so all the profits go into the Pegulas pockets and roads are driving in mine fields except around the stadium and they are smooth as a babies butt. Plus how much is it going to cost the tax payers for each game."

RESPONSE: **Transportation 1** *The commenter's opinion on the condition of roads in the Town of Orchard Park as compared to roads around the Existing Stadium concern matters that are outside of the scope of the SEQRA review for the New Stadium, which is meant to assess the significance of the potential environmental impacts of the Project.*

31. COMMENT SUMMARY: **Transportation 2** One commenter stated that the current traffic management after a stadium event consists of placing barricades across Route 20A at Lot 1 preventing vehicles from traveling eastbound. Traffic is also blocked from traveling westbound on Route 20A at Abbott Road. This results in trapping all these vehicles from exiting these lots located between the Lot 1 entrance and Abbott Road. Vehicles in these lots cannot exit these lots eastbound or westbound until those barriers to traffic are removed on Route 20A several hours after a stadium event. This results in well over 1,000 vehicles trapped and unable to exit after a stadium event. There must be a way for these vehicles to exit in a timely manner. It is unfair to not allow these vehicles to exit their lots until several hours after the game. Vehicles that park in these lots need to be included in any traffic management plan and should be given consideration during any post-game traffic management plan.

RESPONSE: **Transportation 2** *As noted in the Traffic Management Plan (Appendix 16 to the TA), the goal of Game Day traffic management is to help control and manage the flow of traffic and to ensure a high level of safety. The Traffic Management Plan currently provides that Big Tree Road (Route 20A) is converted to eastbound only from Abbott Road to the U.S. 219 Interchange. Thus, vehicles in private lots between Abbott Road and Lot 1 should be able to exit and go eastbound on 20A. All traffic entering onto Big Tree Road (Route 20A) east of Abbott Road needs to be extremely cautious if/when crossing through coned pedestrian travel lanes. However, the presence of the pedestrian travel lanes should not prevent access to Big Tree Road (Route 20A). Nonetheless, this comment will be provided to the highway agencies, law enforcement agencies and others involved in implementation of the TMP on Game Day to help ensure that vehicles from these lots can access Big Tree Road (Route 20A) and travel eastbound to the 219 Interchange.*

32. COMMENT SUMMARY: **Transportation 3** One commenter stated that he disagrees with the TMPs closure of Big Tree Road (Route 20A) making it one way in each direction from Abbott Road as it adds a half hour to the traffic leaving via Abbott Road.

RESPONSE: **Transportation 3** *As noted in the Traffic Management Plan (Appendix 16 to the TA), the goal of Game Day traffic management is to help control and manage the flow of traffic and to ensure a high level of safety. There are significant traffic flow benefits from closing Big Tree Road (Route 20A) to traffic from Abbott Road north of Big Tree Road.*

33. COMMENT SUMMARY: **Transportation 4** One commenter suggested that the TMP should be used for all events at the Stadium, not just game days.

RESPONSE: **Transportation 4** *This comment is acknowledged. The TMP is used as the basis for traffic management during concerts and other larger events at the Existing Stadium Complex.*



34. COMMENT SUMMARY: **Transportation 5** One commenter stated that he owns a private lot and the information in the Traffic Assessment states that he has space for 200 cars but he only has space for 100.

RESPONSE: **Transportation 5** *This comment is acknowledged.*

35. COMMENT SUMMARY: **Transportation 6** One commenter expressed the need for more public transit on game day. Specifically, the commenter stated, “And I’m glad to see in the report a plan for game day public transit. That’s great. I am concerned about how that’s going to be used, where that’s going to terminate, how many trips are going to be available, what times those are going to be to allow people to be able to get the game with enough time.”

RESPONSE: **Transportation 6** *As discussed on page 20 and 49 of the TA, during the 2022 season, NFTA is piloting game day service that operates between several locations across Western New York to a passenger drop-off on Abbott Road. Locations NFTA has considered to service pick-up and drop-off include the Downtown Transit Center on Ellicott Street, Black Rock-Riverside Transit Hub, University Station Park and Ride, Thruway Mall, Athol Springs Transit Hub, Eastern Hills Mall, and McKinley Mall to a passenger drop-off on Abbott Road. Service to/from the Downtown Transit Hub on Ellicott Street is planned to include different service times to accommodate both employees and patrons. NFTA buses use Big Tree Road to Regional Drive as an ingress route, and drop-off at Gate 1. This ingress route gives NFTA priority access for drop-off into the Existing Stadium and drop-off employees and fans in close proximity to gate entry areas. Staff will enter at Employee Gate 1, while fans can enter at Toyota Gate 2. For egress, after last drop-off, buses remaining on-site will be directed to stage and wait on Bills Drive along the guard rail to the right/north side of Bills Drive. This pilot service is in its initial phase as of the 2022 season and, to the extent successful, may grow in the future. Preliminary results from four home games on September 19, October 9, October 30 and November 13 show that 87, 170, 118, and 109 riders, respectively, utilized this pilot service to the Existing Stadium, and 105, 158, 234, and 176 riders, respectively, utilized this pilot service from the Existing Stadium. Riders utilized nearly all of NFTA’s pickup/drop-off locations for this service.*

36. COMMENT SUMMARY: **Parking 1** One commenter inquired about changes to the number of available parking spaces. Specifically, the commenter stated, “. . . I think the stadium is going to be a parking lot after it’s demo’d and I wasn’t sure if it was going to be a net reduction of parking or not. I think the fans would probably want to know that. . . if you’re going to make the stadium out of a parking lot anyway there should be maybe a net increase in parking spaces.”

RESPONSE: **Parking 1** *As detailed in the Traffic Assessment (Appendix 17 to the TA), between the Bills/owner-controlled parking spaces, ECC Campus, and secondary and tertiary parking, it is anticipated that there will be a nominal reduction of 67 parking spaces after construction of the New Stadium. However, it is anticipated that there will be a reduction in the*

*number of people attending a game at the New Stadium (a drop from approximately 73,300 people at the Existing Stadium Complex to 64,200 people at the New Stadium Complex. Thus, this nominal reduction in available parking will not adversely impact parking availability on Game Days.*

37. COMMENT SUMMARY: **Pedestrian Safety 1** Several commenters stated that they were concerned about sidewalks, guiderails, and other structures of the like not being implemented in the new stadium design. A representative comment is as follows: From a safety perspective it would be beneficial to provide added protection for those walking to and from the game. The stadium lots can't hold everyone. There should be guiderails at the streets edge anywhere where there are police controlling traffic. I walk Southwestern from California to the Stadium and cars are zipping by after the game. It takes one person not paying attention, a tire blowing out, an intoxicated driver, a person looking to do harm etc., to veer into the multitude of people that are packing the sidewalk that are just there to support their team. It seems Crazy to me not to have better protection. Please add this as part of the stadium work."

RESPONSE: **Pedestrian Safety 1** *This comment is acknowledged. Pedestrian safety is of the highest importance before and after a game. As explained on page 18 of the TA, the Traffic Management Plan (Appendix 16 to the TA) has been specifically designed to manage game day traffic with the goal of maximizing capacity of the adjacent roadways and protecting the high number of pedestrians in the vicinity of the Existing Stadium Complex. In order to maximize pedestrian safety, Abbott Road from Big Tree Road to Southwestern Boulevard is shut down for pedestrian crossing during event days. Furthermore, before a game, a pedestrian corridor is established within the rightmost northbound lane of Abbott Road from Southwestern Boulevard to Webster Road. After a game, there are lane restrictions on Abbott Road north of Southwestern Boulevard and on Big Tree Road to provide pedestrian corridors. After a game, a pedestrian corridor is established within the right of way of the northbound lane of Abbott Road from Southwestern Boulevard to Webster Road. Furthermore, Big Tree Road (Route 20A) closes to westbound traffic at U.S. Rt. 219 starting at approximately halfway through the game/event. Big Tree Road is then converted into eastbound only traffic to the U.S. Rt. 219 interchange ramp. The TMP calls for use of channelizing devices such as cones or drums to delineate the eastbound traffic on the eastbound shoulder and the travel lanes. The westbound shoulder is used for a pedestrian corridor. As identified in the Traffic Assessment (Appendix 17 to the TA), even with the volume of pedestrian and vehicular traffic on game days, under current Game Day traffic management, there have only been four vehicle-pedestrian accidents reported from 2017-2021. This is an indication that the TMP is effective at managing pedestrian safety in the vicinity of the Site on game days. The TMP will remain in place for the New Stadium and will be reviewed and updated as necessary. In fact, as noted in the TMP, traffic management for Game Day and other events is reviewed at the end of the Team's season to discuss any changes necessary for the coming year, and then again before a season starts (this is a new practice that will be implemented at the end of the 2022-2023 NFL season). In addition, as noted on the Traffic Assessment, the New Stadium will incorporate several new internal walkways west of Abbott Road to enhance pedestrian accommodations. Pedestrian walkways have been designed in*

*a radial manner following line of sight approaches to the New Stadium. Internal walkways have also been located to limit potential conflicts between vehicles and pedestrians, directing pedestrians to dedicated walkways and away from vehicle drives, and will be appropriately lit.*

38. COMMENT SUMMARY: **Pedestrian Safety 2** One commenter was concerned that the New Stadium development may include the County putting in more sidewalks on streets/roads surrounding the New Stadium. This commenter raised a concern about his front yard being taken to build sidewalks. Specifically, the commenter stated, “my concern being the oldest house, is that we have grandfathered setbacks, so if sidewalks go in, okay, you know, I’m going to lose a good portion of my front lawn.”

RESPONSE: **Pedestrian Safety 2** *As noted in response to comment Pedestrian Safety 1 above, no new sidewalks are planned around the New Stadium as part of the Project. Additional funding for sidewalks or other pedestrian improvements may be made available in the future at the discretion of state and local officials.*

39. COMMENT SUMMARY: **Pedestrian Safety 3** One commenter suggested that the construction of pedestrian bridges over Abbott Road would help with traffic flow instead of closing a portion of Abbott Road for pedestrian traffic. Specifically, the commenter stated, “I also noticed that there won’t be any pedestrian bridges going across due to the demand and load of people. I would recommend or suggest maybe two bridges.”

RESPONSE: **Pedestrian Safety 3** *The New Stadium will incorporate several new internal walkways to enhance pedestrian accommodations. Pedestrian walkways have been designed in a radial manner following line of sight approaches to the New Stadium. Internal walkways have also been located to limit potential conflicts between vehicles and pedestrians, directing pedestrians to dedicated walkways and away from vehicle drives. Existing pedestrian walkways and accommodations provided on-Site will remain. The closure of Abbott Road for pedestrian accommodation pre- and post-game as part of the Existing Stadium Traffic Management Plan (Appendix 16 to the TA), is planned to continue. As identified in Appendix 16 to the TA, this closure precludes the need for additional pedestrian accommodation (such as a bridge which has capacity, security, and crush load accommodation issues) across the roadway.*

40. COMMENT SUMMARY: **Energy Usage 1** One commenter asked what the source of the electricity (wind, natural gas, nuclear, solar, etc.) will be; whether this topic has been part of the discussions with the Bills and whether the County will require the New Stadium to use renewable energy or otherwise implement energy control measures?

RESPONSE: **Energy Usage 2** *The New Stadium will utilize the same types of power used by all other buildings in the area. The source of electricity will be the Western New York power grid. The New Stadium Complex falls in the New York ISO regions A-E (upstate), which already uses 91% zero-emission energy for the electric grid. (See NYSIO Power Trends, <https://www.nyiso.com/documents/20142/31358819/PT-2022-Figure-12.jpg/d84f1757-6916->*

3094-6135-df9251b8fc15?t=1654547628544). The New Stadium Complex will continue to draw from these renewable resources. Additionally, newer technologies that are more energy efficient than existing systems will be employed at the New Stadium and throughout the New Stadium Complex. LED video displays used in the seating bowl and concourses, as well as illuminated signs, are more energy efficient than previously available models, thus use less electricity power per square foot than what currently exists at the Existing Stadium. Energy efficient LED lighting fixtures will be used both in the New Stadium, including the playing field, and throughout the New Stadium Complex to reduce the electrical demand. A more extensive lighting control system will be used to minimize the use of electricity and conserve energy when areas are unoccupied.

During construction of the New Stadium, the energy demand associated with construction activities will be less than the Existing Stadium's game day peak load. Construction activity will not occur on game days, thus the peak energy demand during the construction period will not increase from the existing demand. Additionally, the New Stadium will not be operated concurrently with the Existing Stadium, thus there is no overlap of stadium operational electrical use.

41. COMMENT SUMMARY: **Energy Usage 2** One commenter inquired about the heated indoor spaces in the New Stadium Complex and how they will be heated/how much energy will heating these spaces require.

RESPONSE: **Energy Usage 2** Although there is a decrease in seating capacity associated with the New Stadium, there will be an increase in square footage per ticket holder, and an increase in heated interior space, when comparing the New Stadium Complex to the Existing Stadium. This is specifically designed to increase fan comfort and enhance the Game Day experience. Even with the increase in heated interior space, because of the energy-efficient design of the New Stadium, the natural gas usage for the building, including space heating, cooking gas, and water heating, decreased by approximately 14% from existing conditions. However, overall, the natural gas usage will increase from 42,426 decatherms per year at the Existing Stadium Complex to 54,192 decatherms per year for the New Stadium Complex, an increase over existing conditions by 11,766 decatherms or approximately 27%. This increase in natural gas is attributable to the natural grass field, which requires heating through the use of underground boilers in winter. The natural grass field, as compared to the artificial turf at the Existing Stadium, is for purposes of enhanced player safety concerns, including the reduction of knee injury and concussion risks to players. To put this increase in some perspective, on an annual basis, the County's Rath Building utilizes approximately 11,422 decatherms per year. Thus, the increase in natural gas consumption associated with the Project is roughly equivalent to a large office building. Potential impacts from this increase in natural gas usage are mitigated by the more energy efficient design of the New Stadium. Specifically, regarding the HVAC system, a more robust insulated building envelope will be developed that will result in conserving electricity when heating and cooling the building. The improved building envelope will use high performance glazing and increased exterior thermal insulation to reduce heating and cooling loads for interior spaces. The partially open, shaped roofline gives the New Stadium an aerodynamic form as a way to help drive Lake Erie winds over the facility, rather than to swirl

*around inside the bowl, as it does in the Existing Stadium. Improved HVAC automated controls and use of higher efficiency equipment including the use of airside economizers on all air handling systems will increase the New Stadium's energy efficiency and optimize its performance.*

42. COMMENT SUMMARY: **Energy Usage 3** One commenter inquired on the use of solar panels in the surface parking lots to offset electricity use and if solar panels will be used in the New Stadium Complex's design.

RESPONSE: **Energy Usage 3** *As noted above in response to Energy Usage 1, 91% of electricity for the New Stadium comes from zero emission sources and this percentage is expected to grow over time as the State continues its aggressive investments in renewable energy. The design plans do not include solar panels at this time. However, newer technologies that are more energy efficient than existing systems will be employed at the New Stadium and throughout the New Stadium Complex. LED video displays used in the seating bowl and concourses, as well as illuminated signs, are more energy efficient than previously available models, thus use less electricity power per square foot than what currently exists at the Existing Stadium. Energy efficient LED lighting fixtures will be used both in the New Stadium, including the playing field, and throughout the New Stadium Complex to reduce the electrical demand. A more extensive lighting control system will be used to minimize the use of electricity and conserve energy when areas are unoccupied.*

43. COMMENT SUMMARY: **Water Supply 1** One commenter noted that despite stating that the New Stadium will use low-flow water fixtures, the SEQOR documents do not make it clear if the New Stadium will actually use less water, particularly given the grass field. The records indicate the current stadium uses around 20.64 million gallons per year. How much water (est. gallons per year) will the New Stadium use?

RESPONSE: **Water Supply 1** *The New Stadium Complex will see a reduction in both annual water usage and peak water usage on event days due to the new infrastructure and the reduced seating capacity of the New Stadium. While there will be new water usage as a result of field irrigation, annual water usage at the New Stadium is expected to drop from approximately 20 million gallons per year at the Existing Stadium to approximately 15 million gallons per year, a 25% reduction.*

44. COMMENT SUMMARY: **Water Supply 2** One commenter asked if the County is requiring the Bills to conserve water with the New Stadium Complex.

RESPONSE: **Water Supply 2** *The Project provides a number of features to conserve water. As discussed in the Sustainable Design Summary in Appendix 3, low water consumption toilet fixtures and flush valves will be used to reduce the amount of water used by the New Stadium. Low water use landscape technology will be utilized throughout the New Stadium Complex. Higher-efficiency water heaters and pumping systems will be utilized for generating and distributing domestic hot water throughout the New Stadium. The above-mentioned technologies will help conserve water in the New Stadium Complex.*

45. COMMENT SUMMARY: **Water Supply 3** One commenter, who lives close to the New Stadium Complex, stated that his water service has not been a problem for the past fifty years and expressed his concern that the New Stadium will affect water pressures or otherwise adversely impact his water service.

RESPONSE: **Water Supply 3** *It is expected that the New Stadium Complex will see a reduction in peak water usage on event days due to both sustainable design measures and an overall reduction in the number of people attended games. In addition, as discussed in the responses to public comments from the scoping process (Appendix 4 to the TA), the potential for impacts to water service has been assessed and the primary water connection on game days at the New Stadium will occur on an existing transmission main separate from the mains used to service adjacent businesses and residences. This will help ensure that water service to the New Stadium does not adversely impact water services to surrounding businesses and residences and is an improvement upon existing conditions.*

46. COMMENT SUMMARY: **Sewer Supply 1** One commenter, who lives close to the New Stadium Complex, is concerned about the need for new sewer lines to service the New Stadium which might lead to his new driveway being ripped up for placement of these new lines.

RESPONSE: **Sewer Supply 1** *As detailed on page 67 of the TA, the New Stadium Complex will continue discharge to the ECSD #3 and ultimately to the Southtowns Advanced Waste Water Treatment Plant, which has adequate capacity to serve the Project and no expansion of the district is needed. New sewer lines will be run across Abbott Road to tie the New Stadium to the Existing Stadium Complex.*

47. COMMENT SUMMARY: **Community Character 1** One commenter was concerned about property values of the surrounding neighborhoods. The commenter stated that studies have shown that property values decrease during large scale construction projects and that home values will be suppressed for the duration of construction in the Towns of Orchard Park and Hamburg and have a 33% chance of staying devalued once construction is complete.

RESPONSE: **Community Character 1** *It is noted that this commenter also expressed concern about aesthetic impacts to the Manor Lane/Marilyn Drive neighborhood. Thus, for purposes of this response, the focus is on potential impacts to community character in this neighborhood. As noted in response to Comment Aesthetics 1 above, this neighborhood sits approximately 1,000 feet from the Existing Stadium Complex. Viewshed analysis and photo-simulations show limited visual impacts from the New Stadium to the Manor Lane/Marilyn Drive area as compared to existing conditions. While it is certainly acknowledged that the Project constitutes a large scale construction project, as detailed on page 31 of the TA, construction will be in controlled areas within the New Stadium Complex which is generally a sufficient distance from surrounding communities to minimize disturbance. In addition, potential impacts to surrounding neighborhoods from construction noise, construction traffic and construction dust are analyzed in detail in the TA. For example, in terms of noise, as explained on page 59 of the*

TA, 85 to 90% of construction activities will take place during standard daytime work hours (Monday to Friday; 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.) when noise sensitivity is lowest. In addition, active construction monitoring will be done throughout the construction period. Should complaints arise due to construction noise, a reactive noise monitoring plan will be implemented to resolve any such issues. As such, construction disturbance to surrounding communities should be minimal. Additionally, it is noted that the Project will replace the existing fields of surface lots west of Abbott Road (and closest to the Manor Lane/Marilyn Drive neighborhood) with an attractive New Stadium complex with state of the art architecture, and an outdoor sculpture garden, pedestrian walkways and significant additional landscaping. Accordingly, there is no evidence that the construction of the Project will result in a significant reduction in property values in surrounding neighborhoods.

48. COMMENT SUMMARY: **Growth Inducing Impacts 1** Some commenters expressed concern that plans have not been developed to leverage the development of the New Stadium into spin off development in the surrounding area.

RESPONSE: **Growth Inducing Impacts 1** As discussed on page 65 of the TA, in the case of the New Stadium Complex, the Site has already been the home of the Buffalo Bills for the last fifty years. In that time, there has been some off-Site development to support the Existing Stadium Complex including adjacent bars, restaurants, and various types of commercial stores and lodging establishments. These businesses have used their proximity to the Existing Stadium as the basis for drawing in business and generating revenue. The introduction of the New Stadium across Abbott Road from the Existing Stadium Complex will continue to support these businesses but the Project is not expected to result in material ancillary development. Nonetheless, to the extent either the Towns of Orchard Park or Hamburg were to decide to make ancillary development a priority, this could certainly change.

49. COMMENT SUMMARY: **Construction 1** Several commenters expressed concern about construction traffic and potential impacts to Big Tree Road (Route 20A). Some representative comments are as follows:

The transportation plan does not adequately address the negative impact to the health and safety of the residents in the neighborhoods off of [B]ig [T]ree [R]oad. The construction traffic is planned to use the south entrances to the site off of Big Tree. You could not get closer to the residential areas if you wanted to. This plan increases light, noise, dust, vehicular traffic in the residential area that is used by pedestrians and bicyclists. The construction traffic for all equipment, workers, deliveries and any other construction traffic must be relocated to the north side of the site where there are no neighborhoods to mitigate the impact to the residential neighborhoods.

Currently it is busy enough on 20a ( Big Tree Rd) and Abbott. There have been pedestrian fatalities in the area. We don't want construction vehicles "in our backyards" and local streets for obvious reasons. All construction traffic should

come off route 20 and entirely remove it from the neighborhoods to the south and east to mitigate the dangerous construction traffic proximity to the residential areas to the south and south east of the site. This will help reduce negative traffic impacts as my children use the local roads on their bicycles - we dont need another death on the streets. Considering there is no plan for public safety regarding construction traffic A positive declaration should be made.

RESPONSE: **Construction 1** *The commenters appear to be mistaken. While Big Tree Road will provide some construction access to the site, as detailed on pages 53-55 of the TA, construction access points (site gates) will vary in location during the construction phasing **but will primarily use existing driveways along Abbott Road**. Thus, the commenters are mistaken to the extent that they state that “construction traffic is planned to use the south entrances to the site off of Big Tree.” In fact, during initial phases I and II of construction, there will be one Site gate on Abbott Road across from One Bills Drive with a second from Big Tree Road (Route 20A). However, the more intensive construction will occur during Stage III. During this timeframe there will be a total of five site access gates with a three (3) on Abbott Road, one from ECC South Campus, and a northern Site gate off Southwestern Boulevard. Thus, during the most intensive portions of the construction the primary site access gates and the most number of gates will be located on Abbott Road. Larger delivery vehicles and any oversize vehicles will obtain road use permits and will follow the approved site access routing. This routing will utilize high functionally classified State roadways such as Southwestern Boulevard, Abbott Road and Milestrip Road to access the construction site. Construction workers in personal vehicles will typically arrive in manners similar to stadium traffic with higher volumes approaching from the east via US 219. Due to the internal construction site configuration, the primary access gates will be those located on Abbott Road and it is anticipated that a majority of construction worker vehicles will utilize those gates to enter and exit the site. Having multiple driveways on Abbott Road during the Stage III construction efforts will help to allow construction related traffic to approach from multiple directions and be separated from any heavy vehicle or oversize deliveries. The access gate on the ECC South Campus side will provide a secondary access point to the construction site for workers approaching from the southwest.*

*Further, construction vehicle parking and staging is planned to be entirely accommodated on-Site. No off-Site parking or use of local roadways for parking is anticipated during the construction duration. Limited soil cut and fill delivery activity is anticipated as soil storage locations will be provided on-Site and reuse of cut loads at the New Stadium is planned as fill at the Existing Stadium location. Oversize loads and any heavy equipment delivery would be required to follow local and state ordinances for obtaining roadway use permits. Material delivery and removal vehicles would be anticipated to and from the Site but would vary in their delivery times during the day and would generally be outside of the AM and PM peak traffic periods. Construction deliveries can be scheduled to avoid peak traffic times as much as possible. Delivery routes will be utilized to minimize impacts to travel on adjacent roadways.*



50. COMMENT SUMMARY: **Construction 2** Several commenters stated that the construction of the New Stadium and demolition of the Existing Stadium will produce a lot of construction dust and that they are concerned about the effects of the dust on neighboring businesses and surrounding residential areas. Some representative comments are as follows:

This project is the largest construction project this region has ever seen- right next door to my neighborhood and 3 other neighborhoods. We have very serious health, safety, and quality of life concerns with the construction activities that are going to take place over 4-5 years.

Although there is a current stadium near the existing site - it was built when this area was a farm field. The concerns back then were ignored. We know a lot more about environmental health impacts and their health effects now. This project isn't a quick 4 month construction. The construction activities will have long term 4-5 year construction and health impacts on the community and local neighborhoods. Due to the longevity of the project it significantly multiplies these health impacts. It is our concern that the health impacts to local residents are being ignored and replaced by grandiose photo renderings of the new stadium and the beautiful seating arrangements. As the neighborhood is maybe 2000 individuals and the bills are backed by Billions of dollars and Hundreds of thousands fans- we fear we are going to be ignored and suffer negative health consequences after the 4-5 years of constant construction. What will the Bills owners and NYS do to remediate our health concerns?

I own La Galleria Events at 3923 Southwestern Boulevard, Orchard Park, next to Lot 4 of Highmark Stadium. Our wedding customers have voiced their concerns over noise and dust due to the construction process. These were risks the couples were unwilling to take. . . . Outside ceremonies that will be impacted by air and noise pollution due to dump trucks, back hoes, bulldozers, excavators, pavers and the like working til 9 pm on Fridays and 7 pm on Saturdays. This situation is untenable for ceremonies that take place between 3:30 - 6:30 every weekend. Loss of these weddings is a loss of millions of dollars and the loss of employment for 25 - 35 mostly very long term employees.

RESPONSE: **Construction 2** *These comments are acknowledged. As detailed on page 31 of the TA, construction will be in controlled areas within the New Stadium Complex which is generally a sufficient distance from surrounding communities to minimize disturbance. In addition, throughout the construction process, controls will be implemented to minimize dust traveling off-site. For instance, as noted in response to comment Construction 1 above, Site gates will be monitored throughout construction for operational issues and will include a wheel wash station to minimize soil conveyance off-site. In addition, active construction monitoring will be done throughout the construction period. Should complaints arise due to dust travelling*

*off-site, a reactive plan will be implemented to address the issue. Nonetheless, it is noted that there are periods when the construction process may generate dust that temporarily impacts surrounding businesses and residences. Those time periods will generally be limited to the initial construction phase when excavation work takes place and during demolition of the Existing Stadium. During these phases, additional mitigation measures will be implemented to help ensure no adverse impacts to surrounding communities. For instance, during demolition of the Existing Stadium demolition specific dust control measures will be implemented and air monitoring devices will be placed at locations on the Existing Stadium's perimeter. Overall, throughout the Project's entire construction and demolition process measures will be implemented to ensure that any impacts to air quality from construction activities will be minor and temporary in nature.*

51. COMMENT SUMMARY: **Construction 3** Two commenters expressed concern about construction noise. Representative comment are as follows:

Noise pollution. The construction activities will result in 12- 24 hour per day noise pollution for 4-5 years that currently does not exist. The neighborhoods are very close to this site. "noise pollution can cause high blood pressure and subsequent heart problems. The high-decibel signals that get sent to the brain can stimulate the brain in such a way that it releases adrenaline which can over-excite your heart and cause stress. Children are especially susceptible to noise pollution. Studies have shown that noise pollution leads to impaired memory, attention, and reading skill. Considering the long term construction , a positive declaration should be issued for noise pollution for the 4-5 year construction impacts.

I own La Galleria Events at 3923 Southwestern Boulevard, Orchard Park, next to Lot 4 of Highmark Stadium. Our wedding customers have voiced their concerns over noise and dust due to the construction process. These were risks the couples were unwilling to take. . . . Outside ceremonies that will be impacted by air and noise pollution due to dump trucks, back hoes, bulldozers, excavators, pavers and the like working til 9 pm on Fridays and 7 pm on Saturdays. This situation in untenable for ceremonies that take place between 3:30 - 6:30 every weekend. Loss of these weddings is a loss of millions of dollars and the loss of employment for 25 - 35 mostly very long term employees.

The noise study also mentioned the motel across the street, which has to be Maple Court, a two-story building, is mentioned as far as in a 90 decibel area and we're not included at all and we're a lot closer

RESPONSE: **Construction 3** *These comments are acknowledged. As detailed on pages 58-60 of the TA, a detailed analysis of noise from construction activities has been completed. The vast majority of construction work will be performed (approximately 85 to 90%) during standard*

*daytime work hours (Monday to Friday 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.) when noise sensitivity is lowest. After-hours and weekend work is largely reserved for any necessary make-up activities if there are delays as the construction process moves forward. Additionally, construction activities will be conducted in accordance with industry best practices including, among others: (1) all construction equipment will be properly maintained according to manufacturer's recommendations and fitted with efficient muffling devices; (2) construction equipment and/or activities typically known to be of annoyance (e.g., piling) will be limited, shut off when not in use, no idling, minimize drop heights of materials; etc. (3) re-route trucks to main roads where possible; (4) carry out additional noise studies or monitoring programs to verify and document noise levels; (5) investigate alternative construction equipment and/or coordinate noisier operations so they do not occur simultaneously; (6) install temporary noise barriers if necessary.*

*In addition, as noted in response to comment Construction 2 above, active construction monitoring will be done throughout the construction period. Should complaints arise due to noise, a reactive plan will be implemented to address the issue. As detailed in the noise analysis, when a noise complaint is made to the County the following will occur:*

- The County will record the noise complaint including the cause of noise, whether noise is constant or not, and the date and time the noise occurred.*
- The County will inform the Contractor of noise complaints and provide the necessary information.*
- The County will communicate with the Technician about the noise complaint.*
- The Technician will review possible causes for complaints within 1 week of the reception of the complaint and provide initial suggestions on how to mitigate noise. If required, there will be a site visit where the Technician takes short-term sound level measurements. After the site visit, the Technician will provide suggestions on any necessary mitigation within 1 week.*
- Once suggestions are made by the Technician, the Contractor will arrange for mitigation as appropriate.*
- Once mitigation is in place the Technician will take further measurements to ensure that mitigation is effective and properly installed.*
- The Technician will provide summary memo of mitigation results within a week of mitigation measurements.*

*By way of clarification for the owner of La Galleria Events, construction noise at POR-1, which is immediately across the street from this business, is projected to be in the range of 63 to 69 dBA during the construction process - not 90 dBA. Thus, construction noise levels at this location should not be disruptive to the business. It is also noted that LTM-1 was placed in parking lot 4 immediately next to La Galleria Events. Sound levels during concert events at the New Stadium are projected to drop from approximately 92 dBA to 79 dBA at this location. In addition, sound levels from the New Stadium loud speakers during Games are expected to drop from 72 dBA to somewhere between 69 dBA and 72 dBA at this location. Thus, sound level impacts to this location from the New Stadium are expected to improve, particularly during concerts.*

*Overall, during construction of the New Stadium, the Project will result in increased*

*noise levels within the New Stadium Complex and the immediate surrounding area. However, most activities will be limited to daytime construction hours when noise sensitivity is lowest, and best practices and noise mitigating controls will be utilized as appropriate throughout the construction process.*

52. COMMENT SUMMARY: **Construction 4** One commenter was concerned about construction lighting that will be present at the site during construction and how lighting impacts will be mitigated, specifically stating that increased light at night lowers melatonin production which results in a plethora of ailments and symptoms such as sleep deprivation, fatigue, headaches, stress, anxiety, and other mental health problems or cancer.

RESPONSE: **Construction 4** *As noted in the response to comment Construction 3, the vast majority of construction work will be performed (approximately 85 to 90%) during standard daytime work hours (Monday to Friday 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.) when no lighting is necessary. Lighting on the construction site during work hours will be provided in the areas where work is occurring at lighting levels per OSHA Standards to maintain a safe work environment for all workers. All work will take place in controlled areas within the New Stadium Complex which is generally a sufficient distance from surrounding communities to minimize light disturbance from construction activities. Lighting on the construction site after work hours will be limited to Security Guard Booth areas, 24-hour Fire Department access, egress points, and emergency egress stairs. In summary, construction lighting should have no adverse impact on the surrounding community.*

53. COMMENT SUMMARY: **Construction 5** One commenter stated that although there is currently a stadium near the site of the New Stadium Complex, the residents will have to deal with 4-5 years of construction for the New Stadium Complex to be built and with that a slew of health impacts are being ignored. The comment specifically states, "Although there is a current stadium near the existing site - it was built when this area was a farm field. The concerns back then were ignored. We know a lot more about environmental health impacts and their health effects now. This project isn't a quick 4 month construction. The construction activities will have long term 4-5 year construction and health impacts on the community and local neighborhoods. Due to the longevity of the project it significantly multiplies these health impacts. It is our concern that the health impacts to local residents are being ignored and replaced by grandiose photo renderings of the new stadium and the beautiful seating arrangements. As the neighborhood is maybe 2000 individuals and the bills are backed by Billions of dollars and Hundreds of thousands fans- we fear we are going to be ignored and suffer negative health consequences after the 4-5 years of constant construction. What will the Bills owners and NYS do to remediate our health concerns?"

RESPONSE: **Construction 5** *See responses to comments Community Character 1, Construction 1, Construction 2, Construction 3 and Construction 4 above.*

54. COMMENT SUMMARY: **Construction 6** A few commenters expressed concern and/or disappointment that there were not sufficient amenities and lodging available for construction workers in the Town of Orchard Park such that the Town would not see significant economic benefits from construction workers.

RESPONSE: **Construction 6** *It is expected that the vast majority of construction jobs will be filled by Western New Yorkers. For those that do come from outside Western New York, it is anticipated that our regional hospitality industry will see increasing numbers as a result of this Project, which will provide much needed economic benefits to an industry that has seen record lows over the past two years as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. While there is not a lot of available lodging in the area immediately surrounding the Site, the region as a whole has adequate capacity to accommodate these workers. Additionally, not all of the construction workers will be coming to the Site at the same time. For example, trades working on the excavation would be gone before trades working on the interior carpentry, etc. Therefore the out of town workforce will not have a significant impact on area lodging.*

Doc #10800907

Date Received	First Name	Last Name	Feedback	How Comment was Received	Comment Topic
10/19/2022	Charles	Gelia	Absolutely NO!!!! We are being blackmailed!! Somehow, by way of some miracle, we are able to play the 2022 season in the current stadium. Something tells me that, if we tried, we could play next year there too, and the next 10 years as well. Bills don't like it? PLEASE, PLEASE GO ELSEWHERE AND PREY ON THE TAXPAYERS THERE.	Website form	Public Funding 1
10/19/2022	J.Dale	Shoemaker	1. The EAF indicates that the new stadium is a Type 1 action under SEQRA, that it will have significant impacts in a number of categories, and that Erie County will seek a negative declaration under SEQRA. Why is that appropriate?	Email	SEQRA Process 1
10/19/2022	J.Dale	Shoemaker	2. Despite using more sustainable lights and other elements, the Energy Demand Narrative states the new stadium will use more electricity than the current stadium. Will the Bills take any steps to conserve electricity? Will the county require greater efforts to conserve electricity?	Email	Energy Usage 1
10/19/2022	J.Dale	Shoemaker	3. What will be the source of the electricity (wind, natural gas, nuclear, solar, etc.)? Has this topic been part of the discussions with the Bills? Will the county require the stadium to use clean energy?	Email	Energy Usage 1
10/19/2022	J.Dale	Shoemaker	4. Similarly, despite stating the new stadium will use low-flow water fixtures, the SEQR documents do not make it clear if the new stadium will actually use less water, particularly given the grass field. The records indicate the current stadium uses around 20.64 million gallons per year. How much water (est. gallons per year) will the new stadium use?	Email	Water Supply 1
10/19/2022	J.Dale	Shoemaker	5. Will the county require the Bills to conserve water with the stadium?	Email	Water Supply 2
10/19/2022	J.Dale	Shoemaker	6. For the indoor spaces of the new stadium, how will they be heated? And how much energy will heating those spaces require?	Email	Energy Usage 2
10/19/2022	J.Dale	Shoemaker	7. Regarding stormwater, the SEQR documents indicate total runoff will be reduced by 18%. Is that a number the county is happy with? Does the county plan to do more on that front?	Email	Stormwater 1
10/19/2022	J.Dale	Shoemaker	8. Regarding demolition, will any parts of the old stadium be reused? Will any be recycled?	Email	Demolition 1
10/19/2022	J.Dale	Shoemaker	9. Are climate or sustainable elements part of the county's negotiations with the Bills, or the CBA discussions? If they are, what topics are being discussed?	Email	CBA 3
10/19/2022	J.Dale	Shoemaker	10. An expert I spoke with said surface parking lots and stadiums offer a unique opportunity to install solar panels to offset electricity use. Will solar panels be part of any part of the project? Why or why not?	Email	Energy Usage 3
10/19/2022	J.Dale	Shoemaker	11. The Buffalo News reported today that community groups are upset they've not been included in the CBA discussions. Will the public have a chance to offer input on a proposed CBA before one is agreed to?	Email	CBA 1

10/21/2022	William	Schell	<p>I have serious concerns with the lead planner on this project. Who is dictating the design for this new NFL stadium? Poloncarz is cheating out at the expense of everything that is good leadership.</p> <p>Seems like shortcuts all around to support a natural gas mogul's wishes without much consideration for the taxpayer dollars or ongoing, resource-sucking footprint this stadium will have on people and the environment. (That's what it seems like.)</p> <p>"Bills stadium NOT seeking LEED certification" article:  <a href="https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.wgrz.com/amp/article/news/investigations/investigative-post/bills-stadium-to-be-a-paler-shade-of-green-buffalo-money-football-sports/71-c9023359-a629-431f-9cd1-f0eda28ea942">https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.wgrz.com/amp/article/news/investigations/investigative-post/bills-stadium-to-be-a-paler-shade-of-green-buffalo-money-football-sports/71-c9023359-a629-431f-9cd1-f0eda28ea942</a></p> <p>At the state and local level, our government system is squandering the biggest opportunity New York has to be a true leader and make a statement in green design. Not seeking LEED cert is, frankly, trash planning.</p> <p>I am a taxpayer. Please do better.</p> <p>Kind regards,</p> <p>William Schell</p>	Website form	New Stadium Design Suggestion 1
10/25/2022	Jeremy	Besch	<p>I hope that PS&amp;E can be helped to see this CBA as a strategic opportunity for cementing their place in our community as a leader and long-term partner for public betterment. It represents a true commitment to the people of WNY for positive change that can have DECADES of of positive impact, built directly into a project that is already happening, and that can be truly representative of Buffalo's potential for national and international leadership in community building, genuine civic engagement, and smart private/public partnership.</p>	Website form	CBA 2
10/25/2022	David	Perry	<p>I find it hard to believe Kathy Hochul statement that she says the fans want an open air stadium. Nashville just announced they are building a new dome stadium and they're in a much warmer climate than Buffalo. Why can't we have the best if we are going to put this kind of money into a facility anyhow.</p>	Website form	New Stadium Design Suggestion 2
10/25/2022	David	Perry	<p>Too bad people didn't want to try and build it downtown where they could connected to downtown with a Dome. You could make it a convention Center stadium concert venue use for 365 days a year and employing many people instead of nine or 10 football games, and a couple of concerts</p>	Website form	New Stadium Design Suggestion 2

10/27/2022	Matt	Klein	<p>Excited to see the team staying in Buffalo! Hoping we are not being short sighted and can make this more of a year round venue (a smaller version of Gillette Stadium and surrounding area). Would have loved a dome to protect from the elements, but appears it's not in the cards. So my BIG THREE ITEMS are:</p> <p>1. LAYOUT: There is frustration where many fans need to stand the whole game (or much of it) to see. A layout like Baltimore has, helps minimize this with added breaks between sections, doubling as a space for pedestrian traffic too. THIS IS A HUGE HELP. as it creates more seats with unobstructed viewing so people are less inclined to stand.</p>	Website form	New Stadium Design Suggestion 5
10/27/2022	Matt	Klein	<p>2. SAFETY. From a safety perspective it would be beneficial to provide added protection for those walking to and from the game. The stadium lots can't hold everyone. There should be guiderails at the streets edge anywhere where there are police controlling traffic. I walk southwestern from California to the stadium and cars are zipping by after the game. It takes on person not paying attention, a tire blowing out, an intoxicated driver, a person looking to do harm etc., to veer into the multitude of people that are packing the sidewalk that are just there to support their team. It seems CrAZy to me not to have better protection. Please add this as part of the stadium work.</p>	Website form	Pedestrian Safety 1
10/27/2022	Matt	Klein	<p>3. PSL's. I'm glad we have great ownership (and prayers for Kim), They are doing very well financially (Forbes list etc), while many fans are struggling. to make ends meet. I am hopeful there are no PSL's, or if there are that they are minimal. I would suggest if there are PSL's, THAT THEY BE STAGGERED BY SENIORITY, whereas the longer you have been a season ticket holder, the LESS EXPENSIVE the PSL should be, as you have paid your dues sitting through the good and that bad over the years This would show the team cares about it's greatest supporters.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration on the above. As always, GO BILLS!</p>	Website form	Game Day Experience 2
10/27/2022	Jason	Kerr	<p>Really concerned about the amount of glass and what will be done to prevent wildlife from crashing/flying into it and littering the place with dead animals. The area is really close to ravine/creek/woods so it's likely to be a real issue.</p>	Website form	Ecological 1
10/27/2022	Brendon	Samuels	<p>The renderings of this building show elevations that will use large amounts of reflective plate glass. I am concerned that this design will pose a significant risk to migratory birds that may collide with the glass. Suggest that bird friendly design measures should be implemented in elevation planning (i.e., using glass with visual markers) as well as lighting design for the stadium. Please see link below for more information about current best practices in New York.  <a href="https://www.nycaudubon.org/our-work/conservation/project-safe-flight/bird-friendly-building-design">https://www.nycaudubon.org/our-work/conservation/project-safe-flight/bird-friendly-building-design</a></p>	Website form	Ecological 1
10/27/2022	Melissa	Breyer	<p>Hi! The stadium is in a county that has already had 30 million federally protected migratory birds pass through this fall. If the large swaths of reflective glass shown on the stadium plans are not designed to be bird-friendly, the sidewalks and adjacent areas will be piled high with dead songbirds that have crashed into the glass. This will be traumatic for wildlife and for Bills' fans! PLEASE consider making this glass bird-friendly, and having stadium lighting that complies with bird-friendly practices. Do us proud and don't become a site known as a bird migration deathtrap!</p>	Website form	Ecological 1



10/27/2022	Owen	Ward	The large amounts of glass will be disastrous for the millions of migrating birds which pass through this area every year. This needs to be changed.	Website form	Ecological 1
10/27/2022	TM	Cooler	Why are you trying to kill millions of migrating birds???	Website form	Ecological 1
10/27/2022	Amanda	Parsels	I urge you to ensure that the glass of the new stadium uses bird safe glass features. These unobtrusive measures preserve beauty and functionality while ensuring that the tens of thousands of songbirds, warblers, woodpeckers, timberdoodles, and other birds do not die in droves at the foot of your stadium.	Website form	Ecological 1
10/27/2022	Ann	Sanderson	I am not from Buffalo but live in Toronto which is on the same migratory bird flight route. If the design proceeds as drawn without treating the glass with bird friendly fritting it will be a big problem for bird strikes. It's preventable if the proper care is taken with the glass.	Website form	Ecological 1
10/27/2022	Izak	Marker	What is being done to ensure bird populations will not be disrupted by the glass used in this stadium. Please consider options to mitigate against literal high impact.	Website form	Ecological 1
10/27/2022	Gavin	Leighton	<p>Hello,</p> <p>My name is Gavin Leighton and I am a professor of biology at Buffalo State. I just saw the potential design of the new Bills stadium, and while a new stadium is exciting the rendering incorporates a considerable amount of reflective glass. A considerable amount of research shows that this sort of glass will cause a large number of collisions with resident and migrating birds, thus reducing many populations that are already shrinking. I am writing to ask you to incorporate bird-friendly design in this glass to reduce collisions. As part of my research is on birds I would be happy to provide recommendations for how to try to minimize collisions with this building.</p> <p>Thank you, Gavin</p>	Website form	Ecological 1
10/27/2022	D.	Perez	Renditions shown of the glass encased outside of the new stadium are causing a huge amount of concern due to the danger this glass design poses to migrating birds. Please ensure that the glass has proper anti-reflective, bird safe treatment applied to it, so that thousands of migrating birds do not die every week against these windows. What a horrible thing if Bills fans have to step over dead and dying birds writhing on the concrete when they walk in and out of games. As someone who lived for many years in New York City I can tell you this happens every morning during fall migration at the new World Trade Center buildings. It's traumatic to everyone who works there, even people who don't care about wildlife. And it's easily remedied, so please make sure this is handled properly. Thank you.	Website form	Ecological 1
10/27/2022	Paul	GROLEAU	Bills supporter and think a new stadium is needed. Love the design but please consider Bird Safe Glass in the design and development. Vikings stadium should have included this in their design and chose not to and it is a disaster for bird collisions. Up to 1 Billion birds die per year just in North America due to window collisions and there are scientifically proven solutions. If I can ever be of more assistance, even just to educate I would be happy to. Paul Groleau - <a href="http://www.featherfriendly.com">www.featherfriendly.com</a>	Website form	Ecological 1
10/27/2022	Beth	Mai	Please consider using bird friendly design standards.	Website form	Ecological 1
10/27/2022	Heidi	Trudell	Based on the renderings, it looks like the stadium will have significant amounts of glass - it's imperative that the design incorporates best practices for bird safe building and lighting methods in order to prevent mortality events at the stadium.	Website form	Ecological 1

10/27/2022	Paul	Mitchel	The design is a missed opportunity to create something unique, and intimidating. Get the fans closer, think of a design that can help create an atmosphere better and improve as much as you can to ensure any noise reverberates around the stadium. I'm personally a big fan of a single tier stand behind one of the endzones but use some more imagination to make this unique. I'm not saying more expensive, but make it stand out from the rest of the stadiums out there.	Website form	New Stadium Design Suggestion 4
10/27/2022	Vicki	Puluso	Please, please bird proof all that glass! Nearly 25 million migratory birds have already flown through Erie County this Fall, many endangered. This construction could be a disaster for them.	Website form	Ecological 1
10/27/2022	Edward	Gaillard	The proposed design appears to use a lot of reglective glass. That's going to kill many thousands of migratory birds every year. You can considerably reduce the impact by using bird-safe glass and lighting techniques and other bird-friendly design methods. I urge you to consult with the Audubon Society and the American Bird Conservancy. Buffalo and all of New York deserve a stadium that is both beautiful and environmentally sound.	Website form	Ecological 1
10/27/2022	Tamara	Bedic, Esq.	<p>I am very concerned about this stadium being in the flight path of migratory species of birds--species already struggling with secondary pesticide ingestion, climate change, destroyed habitat, pollution, etc.</p> <p>What, if anything, are planners/architects doing to ensure the glass is bird-safe?</p> <p>Scanning your Environmental Site Assessment, both Michael Delaney and Mary Beth Facklam of LaBella are geologists; neither can address the environmental impact of native birds migrating over the stadium and the inevitable bird collisions that will result if the glass is not bird-safe.</p> <p>Bird-safe options include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*GUARDIAN GLASS</li> <li>*ORNILUX MIKADO GLASS</li> <li>*BENDHEIM CHANNEL GLASS</li> <li>*GLASPRO BIRD SAFE GLASS</li> <li>*VIRACON ® BIRD-FRIENDLY GLASS APPLICATIONS and</li> <li>*WALKER AVIPROTEK® GLASS</li> </ul> <p>All of the above use advanced UV coatings combined with laminated glass to limit bird collisions while leaving views CLEAR and OPEN.</p> <p>The technology exists. Please loop in avian experts and innovative glass tech to minimize death-by-collision.</p> <p>Thank you,  Tamara Bedic, Esq.  President  National Lawyers Guild, NYC</p>	Website form	Ecological 1
10/27/2022	Forrest	Almasi	Please make sure you use bird safe glass. That design is a death trap. The streets will be littered with dead birds because they can't see the glass.	Website form	Ecological 1

10/27/2022	Calista	McRae	Hi! Thanks for the opportunity to leave feedback. The sheer extent of what looks like normal, reflective plate glass is likely to kill hundreds of migratory birds each spring and again each fall. Please consider bird-friendly glass -- it can be extremely unobtrusive to human eyes. We just need finely spaced visual indicators, so that birds can recognize the glass as an obstacle and avoid it. The American Bird Conservancy's collisions program can advise you, as could NYC Audubon: the products now on the market are aesthetically pleasing and incredibly effective (when the Javits Center was redone, using bird-friendly glass, the collision rate was cut by 95%). But it will be far, far more cost-effective to implement bird-friendly glass from the start. And it will save the lives of thousands of endangered species, over the years.	Website form	Ecological 1
10/27/2022	Heidi	Cleven	Hi, please please consider using bird safe glass for this building. Up to 1 billion birds die every year due to collisions with glass ( <a href="https://audubonportland.org/our-work/rehabilitate-wildlife/being-a-good-wildlife-neighbor/birds-and-windows/">https://audubonportland.org/our-work/rehabilitate-wildlife/being-a-good-wildlife-neighbor/birds-and-windows/</a> ). We need to do better! Thank you for reading my comment. Regards, Heidi	Website form	Ecological 1
10/27/2022	Colette	Lageoles	I just looked at the renderings for the Buffalo Bills stadium, and it shows large amounts of reflective plate glass. I am concerned that this design will pose a significant risk to migratory birds that migrate through Western New York increasing the chance of window collisions. According to the US Fish and Wildlife, special glass can greatly minimize bird strikes. Here is the link: <a href="https://www.fws.gov/story/threats-birds-collisions-buildings-glass">https://www.fws.gov/story/threats-birds-collisions-buildings-glass</a> Please consider using bird-friendly glass. Thank you.	Website form	Ecological 1
10/27/2022	Aarti	Patel	As a resident of NY state, a conservationist and environmentalist, the glasses windows of the new proposed stadium is absolutely damaging to migratory bird species during spring and fall migration seasons, causing a number of window collisions and preventable deaths of bird species, many of which have ready seen steep decline in population because of window collisions. This is completely preventable, we as new Yorkers have a responsibility to care for the non-human visitors that pass through our beautiful state, and to make sure they are protected during their travels. That's what new yorkers do. Please do the right thing and make sure the stadium bird proofs accurately and thoughtfully.	Website form	Ecological 1
10/27/2022	Rina	Berka	While I understand the want to make the new stadium look beautiful. You need to keep the birds in mind when designing the stadium. Over 20 million birds migrate through this area of NY and if you don't keep the birds in mind you are going to have thousands of collision victims. The environment and bird lovers don't want this travesty to happen and I'm sure that sport fans don't want to see dead birds all around the stadium. Please take the environmental assessment seriously and follow the simple and affordable options to make the new stadium safe for the bird community!	Website form	Ecological 1
10/27/2022	Feizal	Fakier	Let's set aside that any of our effing tax dollars should go to a billionaire's organization's building (idgaf about this nonsense about jobs creation, it's a crap argument)... but there are millions of birds that pass through this fly way to migrate to as far as lower South America. A huge percentage of them don't make it due to window collision - glass buildings. These animals have to travel a great distance, find food, shelter and avoid predation. Why do we need more glass? Aesthetics? How many birds have to die so that our (unwilled) tax payer funded building can reign in more money for the wealthy and provide mediocre (at best) jobs? - disgusted	Website form	Public Funding 1

10/27/2022	Matthew	DeGulis	Please use bird-safe glass for the outside windows. Buffalo sees millions of migratory birds every spring and fall. It will be a PR headache for the Bills when the birder groups constantly post about hundreds of dead birds outside the stadium every day. Bird safe glass is proven to prevent collisions and is used in construction projects all over the world.	Website form	Ecological 1
10/27/2022	Lindsay	Barnett	Since the stadium is situated along a migratory route crucial for bird populations, please ensure that only bird-safe glass is used in its construction. Thank you.	Website form	Ecological 1
10/27/2022	Matt	Fischer	I am concerned the design is too glass heavy and many birds will die during their migration spring and fall. Take a look at Fiserv Forum in Milwaukee.  <a href="https://www.fiservforum.com/news/detail/fiserv-forum-is-the-worlds-first-bird-friendly-arena">https://www.fiservforum.com/news/detail/fiserv-forum-is-the-worlds-first-bird-friendly-arena</a>	Website form	Ecological 1
10/27/2022	Nancy	Solomon	The design of this stadium is a terrible idea for migratory birds. Effort has to be made to make the glass less dangerous.	Website form	Ecological 1
10/27/2022	R	Burstein	The design is beautiful, but I'm concerned that all the glass will become an unintentional bird-killing trap. Please consider bird and animal safety in your design!	Website form	Ecological 1
10/27/2022	Janice	Bridgers	I've read that your new stadium will impose a big threat to migrating birds who crash into glass buildings. Please do your best to consider this problem and to,ask for help in how to mitigate it. Thank you. Janice Bridgers	Website form	Ecological 1
10/27/2022	Abby	Frawley	Hello! As a Bills fan, wildlife enthusiast, and former WNY'er, I urge you to consider using bird friendly glass and design for the new stadium. Western NY is an important area for migrating birds, and glass buildings cause fatalities during migration. I'd love to see a stadium that celebrates two things that make NY great - both the Buffalo Bills and the birds!	Website form	Ecological 1
10/27/2022	Andrew	Farnsworth	Please consider thoroughly the incorporation of bird safe glass and bird friendly lighting solutions as imperatives in your planning for the Buffalo Bills Stadium. Bird populations in the US and Canada have declined precipitously in the last 50 years, with staggering losses across an enormous number of species. Annually, up to ONE BILLION birds are killed in collisions with buildings and structures, especially those with reflective glass and intensive use of lights to illuminate. Please follow the guidance of the American Bird Conservancy and others in choosing approaches to your designs and construction that stem the tide of these horrible losses. This would be an enormous win for the organization off the field and on the field alike if you do this, an inspiration for sports teams and facilities around the country and the world. I am happy to provide details regarding bird safe glass and bird friendly lighting solutions. Know that if you implement these solutions, you will be happily protecting some of the 35 MILLION birds that pass through Erie County every football season.  Sincerely, Andrew Farnsworth, Ph.D. Cornell Lab of Ornithology Center for Avian Population Studies	Website form	Ecological 1

10/27/2022	Caroline	Quinn	Please, please ensure that the plans include bird-friendly treatments on all that glass or this design will likely end up killing dozens if not hundreds of migrating birds moving along the Atlantic Flyway each spring and fall!	Website form	Ecological 1
10/27/2022	Krystal	Anton	For five years I have been involved in bird studies picking up birds that have hit glass on buildings. I have 700 birds under my name alone, part of thousands that have been collected in Kansas City on a relatively small area. The Minnesota Vikings didn't listen when concerns were brought up, they are now under serious scrutiny, make the news for the number of birds killed every year, and are trying to figure out what to do because wether you, or they, care even a little, this is very important to the future of birds. It's estimated 50-70% of them have been lost already, and diversity is crashing. Windows kill an estimated one billion every year in North America alone. I know, my husband worked on the Vikings practice facility, that there is enough money to do bird safe glass when building stadiums. So there just needs to be a will to do the right thing. Please do the right thing.	Website form	Ecological 1
10/27/2022	Joshua	Malbin	The proposed stadium build will be in a major migratory flyway through which millions and millions of migrating birds pass each year. Window strikes are one the biggest human causes of bird mortality each year, and North American bird populations are in major decline. Any design must include bird-safe glass and design to minimize window strikes or will be a terrible step in the wrong direction. Fortunately these changes are very feasible and need not significantly affect construction.	Website form	Ecological 1
10/27/2022	Mike	Odonnell	I think that to not build a new Buffalo Bills Stadium without a dome is a Very, Very Big mistake. We are missing out on a great opportunity to make Western New York a great place to watch the Bills and attend concerts and other events and even future NFL Superbowls. Why waste this great opportunity to build a world class facility that will not only satisfy the Bill's fan Mafia base but also allow great music events and many other great events all year round. Please don't miss this opportunity to get a lot of additional revenue and I mean a lot of additional revenue back into this regional are for many many years to come. Please don't be shortsighted in this venture. This means a very great opportunity for Buffalo and all of western New York to prosper in the many years to come.	Website form	Design Suggestion 2

10/27/2022	Jason	Patronik	<p>This project is the largest construction project this region has ever seen- right next door to my neighborhood and 3 other neighborhoods. We have very serious health, safety , and quality of life concerns with the construction activities that are going to take place over 4-5 years. With a few minutes I had today I jotted some of the concerns down here-</p> <p>1- Dust- this construction activity will create thousands of tons of airborne particulates that are currently not there. We know that particulate air pollution is linked to many diseases. Dust is a general term used to describe different dusts that you may find on a construction site. There are three main types:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* silica dust – created when working on silicacontaining materials like concrete, mortar and sandstone (also known as respirable crystalline silica or RCS);</li> <li>* wood dust – created when working on softwood, hardwood and wood-based products like MDF and plywood;</li> <li>* lower toxicity dusts – created when working on materials containing very little or no silica. The most common include gypsum (eg in plasterboard), limestone, marble and dolomite.</li> </ul> <p>· Anyone who breathes in these dusts should know the damage they can do to the lungs and airways. The main dust-related diseases are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* lung cancer;</li> <li>* silicosis;</li> <li>* chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD);</li> <li>* asthma.</li> </ul> <p>Some lung disease, like advanced silicosis or asthma, can come on quite quickly. Most of these diseases take a long time to develop. Dust can build up in the lungs and harm them gradually over time. The effects are often not immediately obvious. Unfortunately, by the time it is noticed the total damage done may already be serious and life changing. It may mean permanent disability and early death.</p>	Website form	Construction 2
10/27/2022	Jason	Patronik	<p>2- Noise pollution. The construction activities will result in 12- 24 hour per day noise pollution for 4-5 years that currently does not exist. The neighborhoods are very close to this site. “noise pollution can cause high blood pressure and subsequent heart problems. The high-decibel signals that get sent to the brain can stimulate the brain in such a way that it releases adrenaline which can over-excite your heart and cause stress. Children are especially susceptible to noise pollution. Studies have shown that noise pollution leads to impaired memory, attention, and reading skill.</p> <p>Considering the long term construction , a positive declaration should be issued for noise pollution for the 4-5 year construction impacts.</p>	Website form	Construction 3

10/27/2022	Jason	Patronik	<p>3- The neighborhood residents in the manor lane/Marilyn Dr. Have not had the opportunity to review a photo simulation to be able to evaluate the line of site impact on the neighborhood. The photo simulations were evaluated from far away locations that appear to be "hand picked" to show the best situation possible. The new stadium is at grade and much higher. Currently the existing stadium is out of site from these vantage points. We would like a photo-simulation from the corner of parker and bigtree road and kathleen and big tree road in order to further evaluate the line of site.</p> <p>The new stadium is within the line of site from our neighborhood and should be considered to negatively effect the existing characteristic of the neighborhood. A positive declaration for seqr in that it substantially negatively changes the character of the neighborhood should be issued.</p>	Website form	Aesthetics 1
10/27/2022	Jason	Patronik	<p>4-light Pollution- the activities at this site will create construction light pollution for 4-5 years that currently does not exist. Lights from all angles from construction vehicles.</p> <p>A n increased amount of light at night lowers melatonin production, which results in sleep deprivation, fatigue, headaches, stress, anxiety, and other health problems. Recent studies also show a connection between reduced melatonin levels and cancer.</p>	Website form	Construction 4
10/27/2022	Jason	Patronik	<p>5- property values- studies have shown that property values decrease during local large scale construction projects. My homes value will be surpressed for the duration of construction and has a 33% chance of staying devalued after construction completion.</p> <p>I would like to know How this will be compensated to me? Property tax reduction?</p>	Website form	Community Character 1

10/27/2022	Jason	Patronik	<p>6- Construction traffic. Currently it is busy enough on 20a ( big tree rd) and Abbott. There have been pedestrian fatalities in the area. We dont want construction vehicles “in our backyards “ and local streets for obvious reasons. All construction traffic should come off route 20 and entirely remove it from the neighborhoods to the south and east to mitigate the dangerous construction traffic proximity to the residential areas to the south and south east of the site. This will help reduce negative traffic impacts as my children use the local roads on their bicycles - we dont need another death on the streets.</p> <p>Considering there is no plan for public safety regarding construction traffic A positive declaration should be made.</p> <p>Although there is a current stadium near the existing site - it was built when this area was a farm field. The concerns back then were ignored. We know a lot more about environmental health impacts and their health effects now. This project isnt a quick 4 month construction. The construction activities will have long term 4-5 year construction and health impacts on the community and local neighborhoods. Due to the longevity of the project it significantly multiplies these health impacts.</p> <p>It is our concern that the health impacts to local residents are being ignored and replaced by grandiose photo renderings of the new stadium and the beautiful seating arrangements. As the neighborhood is maby 2000 individuals and the bills Are backed by Billions of dollars and Hundreds of thousands fans- we fear we are going to be ignored and suffer negative health consequences after the 4-5 years of constant construction.</p>	Website form	Construction 1
10/27/2022	Jason	Patronik	<p>1- the height of the stadium is proposed to be 50 ft higher than the top of the existing light towers.this will put it on high ground and highlyly visible to the neighborhood. Currently we cannot see the bills stadium. When this is built it will negatively impact the community character as it is rater rural and quiet currently. There will be significant light and noise pollution more than the current stadium as there will be higher lights and more use.</p> <p>What will the Bills owners and NYS do to remediate our health concerns?</p>	Website form	Aesthetics 1
10/27/2022	Randall	O'Donnell	<p>The design is very pretty, but the amount of glass it uses is concerning. Millions of birds migrate through NY each year, and the glass is very danger for them. Billions of birds die from window collisions each year.</p> <p>I also don't think fans would be thrilled to see dead birds littering the ground on their way to games.</p>	Website form	Ecological 1
10/27/2022	Stu	Mackenzie	<p>Please consider bird safe building practices - bird friendly glass or other design modifications.</p>	Website form	Ecological 1
10/27/2022	Gary	Cutright	<p>Shame on the county executive for allowing unions to build the stadium instead of saving money by using non union employees. It would be cheaper not to use union. It's time to start thinking about us the taxpayers or everyone of you will be voted out who support wasting more than needs to be wasted.</p>	Website form	Public Funding 2



10/27/2022	Cathy	Yee	<p>29M migratory birds fly through New York county. Having a glass stadium is going to kill A LOT of birds. Please have some compassion and design something that will not kill millions of wildlife.</p> <p><a href="https://www.fws.gov/story/threats-birds-collisions-buildings-glass#:~:text=Every%20year%20nearly%20one%20billion,stop%20shelters%20cause%20bird%20collisions.">https://www.fws.gov/story/threats-birds-collisions-buildings-glass#:~:text=Every%20year%20nearly%20one%20billion,stop%20shelters%20cause%20bird%20collisions.</a></p>	Website form	Ecological 1
10/27/2022	Willow	English	<p>Hello, I am extremely concerned about the proposed design of this building - specifically the risk it will pose to birds. Buffalo is on a major flight path for birds, and millions will migrate by the city. They get drawn in by light pollution, then are at risk of colliding with glass. The amount of glass in the proposed design mean that it will pose a threat to birds. Given that North America has lost almost a third of its birds in the last 50 years, the last thing we need is another threat. Luckily there's very simple solutions: patterned glass. This will break up the reflections that cause birds to collide, and allow them to identify that the glass is a solid object. While most bird-friendly glass has a simple dot pattern, you can also get creative and make the pattern with your logo or other symbols. Toronto used a pattern of athletic symbols for the bird-safe glass at the aquatics centre built for the PanAmerican Games, and a library in Ottawa has glass patterned with letters of the alphabet.</p> <p>Making this stadium bird-friendly would have a negligible cost compared to the overall budget, and ensures compliance with the Migratory Bird Act. It would also be a great PR story for your organization, and help spread the word about protecting wildlife.</p>	Website form	Ecological 1

10/27/2022	Andrew	Last Name Unknown	<p>My name is Andrew. I used to be a Bills fan. Dare I say a rabid fan. I even went to the extent one weekend to drive from Fort Hood, Texas Thursday night, Friday and Saturday visit family, Sunday go to a Bills game. I actually had to go to the will call window to get the tickets. Made it to the game. Watched the game. Started driving home back to Fort Hood when I could. Come back to Fort Hood. Season ticket holder for a year. Great. Like I said, dare I say a rabid fan. Then about eight, nine years ago the Buffalo Bills disrespected the United States Armed Forces. I am retired now. I was retired in 2013, so luckily I had my freedom of speech again and I am happy to use it. 2008, 2009 the NFL started their kneeling on the anthem, disrespecting the military, disrespecting the whole United States.</p> <p>I was trying to stay a Bills fan. I'm still a Bills fan. Didn't care what other teams did. Not my business. When the Bills disrespected the entire armed forces, that was the last day I watched a game. I cancelled Verizon. Don't go to Dunn Tire. Don't go to McDonalds. I know it doesn't show. Prior to my retirement in 2000 -- I want to say 2006/2007 season -- can everybody hear me okay? All right. I'm not a fan of microphones.</p> <p>I think it was end of 2006 or end of 2007 season I bought a Bills flag. Brought it to the team. Most of the time signed it to include Dick Jauron, Trent Edwards. Marv Levy is on the flag. Took it to Afghanistan with the Bills Backers Club. Took some pictures in front of our dining facility because I couldn't take pictures outside of our installation. Didn't want to give away our location. Sent it to the Bills while I was overseas. I was honored as could be. I get back. I go to a home game. There's our pictures on the Jumbotron. I couldn't be prouder.</p> <p>The last day I flew the Bills flag was the day that the Bills knelt for the anthem. Haven't watched a game since.</p> <p>I've reached out to the Bills on numerous occasions to try to offer this flag, to try to present it to the NFL, to the Bills, my team, my team, how valuable they are to the Armed Forces of the United States.</p> <p>I got to see one game while I was in Afghanistan. Didn't care about Al Qaeda that night. Didn't care about any mortar rounds</p>	Public Hearing	Game Day Experience 3
10/27/2022	Andrew	Last Name Unknown	<p>My main argument is just this: Why --now I'm retired. Why should even a portion of my retirement for the injuries I sustained overseas, for the time I lost with my son, for the relationships that failed because I was overseas, why should a portion of my retirement go to pay for a new stadium for the organization that I have no clue whether they will disrespect me, disrespect the armed forces, disrespect the nation on a weekly basis.</p> <p>I have not watched a game again since the Bills knelt because that's just a slap in the face that I cannot turn the other cheek. I pray I didn't go over the three minutes. Thank you for your time. God bless.</p>	Public Hearing	Public Funding 1
10/27/2022	Ryan	Brown	<p>Hi. My name is Ryan Brown. I live in Amherst. And I'm glad to see in the report a plan for game day public transit. That's great. I am concerned about how that's going to be used, where that's going to terminate, how many trips are going to be available, what times those are going to be to allow people to be able to get the game with enough time,</p>	Public Hearing	Transportation 6

10/27/2022	Ryan	Brown	but specifically I'm concerned about the amount of New York State money that's going towards this stadium. With the combination of the state and county money, for every Erie County resident I calculated it's about \$300 per Erie County resident and that's not just voting age. That's not limited to just people who do pay taxes, but what that comes out to is that taxpayers like I already have to shell out for the stadium. If I want to watch a game I have to go buy tickets. Obviously having public transport to the stadium is nice, but I would expect to see more from this deal for the individual New York State residents that are footing a large portion of this stadium bill. That's all my comments and mostly it's just the amount that the individual taxpayer ends up paying for this stadium, for a stadium that's going to be used for at most 20 games a season and that's it. We have no away games, doubtful, and for a stadium that is going to be mainly used for a private team that doesn't have public ownership stake and all. That is all. Thank you for your time	Public Hearing	Public Funding 1
10/27/2022	Ryan	Brown	And from an environmental and land use perspective, I would be really curious why the site was selected not to just be on the same site, but I know this isn't an answering session.	Public Hearing	Alternative location 1
10/27/2022	Richard	Whipple	Hi there. Rich Whipple, Amherst, New York. Really I've been a season ticket holder for a very long time. Die hard Bills fan for 46 years. Fellow urban planner. I had a nice discussion with Scott walking in the door. I certainly appreciate Scott's relationship with Bills ownership over the years. We're really pleased to have you still representing and coming back to Western New York. Being an urban planner I have certainly analyzed sports facilities as part of my career for 25 years and have worked on your side of the table with the SEQR process and CEQA in California, so I really have done a lot of work on these projects, really appreciate the work that the county has done with Mark's leadership and then Ron from PSE, he's been able to explain an awful lot to the fans and certainly appreciate PSE's representation. With regard to the building and the renderings that came out today, they're spectacular. I think on social media one of the comments was from one of the environmental groups about the shining part of the facade there.	Public Hearing	Non Substantive
10/27/2022	Richard	Whipple	But in terms of the structure, everyone should know -- all fans should know our stadium that we are in right now, back in 1973 -- half of it is subgrade. Half of it is underground. If you sit in the lower bowl you're going down, so this structure is going to be -- is going to look very tall. Of course it is. Because the other one is shorter. Half of it is underground. So you have to understand the massing that Populous had to work with here in order to built this. It's going to be at grade basically, so it's a taller facility.	Public Hearing	Aesthetics 2
10/27/2022	Richard	Whipple	and if you're going to make the stadium out of a parking lot anyway there should be maybe a net increase in parking spaces.	Public Hearing	Parking 1
10/27/2022	Richard	Whipple	But anyway, I appreciate the SEQR requirements here tonight. I appreciate the coordination that PSE has done with the county and Populous. Scott, thanks so much for coming back again and being a part of Western New York. Thank you so much.	Public Hearing	Non Substantive

10/27/2022	Richard	Whipple	<p>I know you can't answer questions, but they're bringing up migratory birds and wondering if that was plate glass and I thought it was like -- the skin on it was some sort of perforated material, so I think one of the responses you need to put in there was about migratory birds.</p> <p>Now, I worked for the Army Corps of Engineers and I have a lot of projects in the Buffalo Outer Harbor and the water, so I deal with migratory birds and how they fly. And so their concern was the sheen that you see there, and I thought it was perforated material and it was for wind confusion, and if that was plate glass that would be an awful lot of money on that.</p>	Public Hearing	Ecological 1
10/27/2022	Richard	Whipple	<p>I really appreciate the little historical reference with regard to the vertical panes on there; certainly a nod to Kleinhans Music Hall a little bit and Memorial Auditorium and War Memorial Stadium. I think with the vertical pillars there there's some representation there that people are really going to appreciate, so from an urban planning and design perspective, that's really respected and appreciate the design there.</p>	Public Hearing	Aesthetics 3
10/27/2022	Richard	Whipple	<p>I know demolition of the existing stadium is part of the process as well. The only thing I couldn't glean out of the traffic and parking study technical documents was I think the stadium is going to be a parking lot after it's demo'd and I wasn't sure if it was going to be a net reduction of parking or not.</p> <p>I think the fans would probably want to know that. With the lower attendance there would seem to be a lot more parking spaces available</p>	Public Hearing	Parking 1
10/27/2022	Richard	Whipple	<p>The only other item, and I'll leave with this, is a few stadiums have done this when they demolished their older ones. Place GPS coordinates for midfield of the existing stadium in that parking lot and the end zones.</p> <p>Fans will appreciate that because there's been a lot of history at that stadium and fans want to know where the old stadium was, so place those GPS markers. They did it for Shea Stadium in New York. They put gold monuments in the parking lot. Just put them in there. People will go back there. Maybe a car will be parked over it, but so what? Right? People will appreciate that.</p>	Public Hearing	New Stadium Design Suggestion 3
10/27/2022	William	Tyrell	<p>My concern being the oldest house is that we have a grandfathered setback, so if sidewalks go in, okay, you know, I'm going to lose a good portion of my front lawn.</p>	Public Hearing	Pedestrian Safety 2
10/27/2022	William	Tyrell	<p>Hi everybody. I'm lucky to be a Bills fan. My dad when I was 5 years old took me to the Old Rock Pile. That was my first Bills game. I have either seen, heard or been to every Bills game, okay? I'm not looking for a plaque. What my concern tonight is is I have one of the oldest houses in the area and that house is going to be looking directly across the street now at the stadium. And that's not the concern.</p>	Public Hearing	Non Substantive
10/27/2022	William	Tyrell	<p>The rendering is absolutely beautiful. What the Pegulas have done and what your committee has done and everybody has made Buffalo a place to look at now, especially with the success of Josh Allen and the current Bills team. Let's hope that that continues to go on.</p>	Public Hearing	Aesthetics 3
10/27/2022	William	Tyrell	<p>The second part of that is I spent \$11,000 on a driveway, concrete, so I'm worried about that because of the sewers would have to obviously be bigger than what they are now and some of the ditches -- there's a ditch on one side of me and a ditch on the other side that would have to be filled in.</p>	Public Hearing	Sewer Supply 1

10/27/2022	William	Tyrell	<p>The only other concern I have is usually a homeowner -- I'm a retired contractor. Usually a homeowner is responsible for their water line coming from the street to the house and inside the house, okay?</p> <p>Well, my house was built in 1919 and if you increase the water pressure in the area is there a study? Is there going to be anybody coming out looking at that and are the older residents I suppose going to get any kind of concession? You know, that's -- I'm retired now and on a fixed income and I have got to look at \$10,000, \$12,000 to replace a water line and ruin all my garden beds in my driveway, I'm just not real happy about that.</p> <p>But that's about all I have to say, so that will leave a couple more minutes for somebody else. Go Bills. Great job. And I love being a Buffalo Bills fan.</p>	Public Hearing	Water Supply 3
10/27/2022	Leg. John	Mills	<p>Good evening and thanks for all you're doing, the committee.</p> <p>One of the things I keep preaching to my constituents and people I run into here and elsewhere in the country is the impact of this project. This is probably the largest dollar project, impact project probably you've seen here in 100 years, maybe more.</p> <p>I'm glad the drawings came out because people kept asking me what this thing would look like and I was fortunate to be around when the old stadium was built, the one we're playing in now. I think it's about 50 feet into the ground and I was with the U.S. Gypsum Company at the time, so this is going to be 30 feet I believe higher than the existing facility.</p> <p>So it's good to get this back out to the public. I just don't have the sense that the public really understands the scope and the impact of this particular project on our area. Not just Erie County, but on Upstate New York.</p> <p>And I would like to see the word get out on that more aggressively,</p>	Public Hearing	Non Substantive
10/27/2022	Leg. John	Mills	<p>but having said that I'm going to go back to the public safety issue here which again are sidewalks. I know some people say, well, sidewalks are a pain in the neck because you have to clear them and things like that, but public safety is so important.</p> <p>I think the Bills are supporting that because they want their attendees to be safe and prevent fatalities over the years, so having said that, I'm glad you put together a traffic plan, but I'd like you to be able to expand that to include other events that are going to take place at that stadium, including concerts and other events in general, and I think that will just enhance what we're trying to do here now because once this facility is built it's going to be very tough to change what is going on at the facility, so we really have to be right upfront and make this thing work the first time around.</p> <p>We get one bite at the apple for the next 30 years. But that public safety is so important for the pedestrians that are going to come to this stadium.</p>	Public Hearing	Pedestrian Safety 1
10/27/2022	Leg. John	Mills	<p>And I think the other thing, and it may be on the website, but how are we going to handle the 10,000 workers that we anticipate coming to this site over the next four years to build that stadium, especially when we're back in season for the next few years? And teams coming in and playing, how are we going to handle it? Where are these people going to be staying and</p>	Public Hearing	Construction 6
10/27/2022	Leg. John	Mills	<p>what is going to be the traffic pattern of the construction workers and construction machinery? I think that's very important</p>	Public Hearing	Construction 1

10/27/2022	Leg. John	Mills	I have talked to the Chamber of Commerce and the supervisor in Orchard Park and we want to develop some type of -- Town of Hamburg, too. Develop some kind of business surrounding the state and make it a little more unique than what we're doing now. So thank you	Public Hearing	Growth Inducing Impacts 1
10/27/2022	Don	Lorenz	I'm the Executive Director for the Orchard Park Chamber of Commerce. Jack mentioned that we have been talking back and forth. We have some concerns. The 600 and some businesses that we represent, we haven't had an opportunity at all to speak to anybody with the Bills organization, with the county, with the state or anyone else at this point to at least feel -- get a feel for what is going to be happening. We've had a stadium for 50 years and back in 1997, 1998 it was determined that we're going to get zero income from that stadium and everything was going to the NFL, to the Bills, so from that point we lost over a million and a half dollars a year not getting any income from that for parking, for the concessions, for everything else. Since the businesses pay a lion's share of taxes, since most of this is being built by taxpayer dollars at this point, as I'm representing our businesses we don't have a hotel in our community. Shame on us, but that's something we have to work towards.	Public Hearing	Public Funding 1
10/27/2022	Don	Lorenz	As John was saying, where are these people going to stay? So we're going to have thousands of people coming here and our town does not benefit from it. I was interviewed a couple of weeks ago when Pittsburgh was here.	Public Hearing	Construction 6
10/27/2022	Don	Lorenz	Boy, you must be really excited about all the income you're going to be making while Pittsburgh is here because they are going to be coming in in droves. I said Hamburg, East Aurora, West Seneca, downtown will do well. We're going to have people driving by, stopping at the gas station, maybe picking up something on the way in and then we won't see them for the rest of the time. So our stores, our boutiques, our restaurants do not get any of the economic gain from having a stadium in our backyard. It has never been maintained. That area has never been maintained. We've had blue tarps on some of the restaurants for many years. That's all people see when they come into Orchard Park. That's the image of Orchard Park. Is that what we want to continue for the next 30 years or do we want people to see the beautiful village and town of Orchard Park, the parks that we have, the tobogganing, all the things we have to offer.	Public Hearing	Non Substantive

10/27/2022	Don	Lorenz	<p>That's some of the things I'm looking at and I guess the other concern that I have heard from a number of people, why has it been that the Pegulas or the Buffalo Bills organization is able to make a decision when we pay the lion's share that it can only be used for summer and for the football games, so they get to have, you know, "they get to play in the elements." I've been a musician my whole life. I would love to be able to go to concerts there on a regular basis. I would love to see different things. Wrestle Mania is coming.</p> <p>We don't have a convention center in Buffalo that can house these large conventions. We have a facility that would house that and we can't use it because it's not going to be covered. I just don't understand why they have the option to be able to say, even though we're paying whatever it is, the dollar amount that we're paying compared to the NFL and the Buffalo Bills, why can they make that decision?</p> <p>Why can't it be retractable so that we can get twelve months out of the year? We'd like to build a hotel that would become a twelve month destination. Have a museum, have a water park, but it's kind of foolish if we can't maintain getting a huge structure like that that could be used twelve months out of the year. Thank you.</p>	Public Hearing	New Stadium Design Suggestion 2
10/27/2022	Eric	Matwitjow	<p>My main concern obviously is the support building. Reading the documents, I didn't do all 3000 pages, but I see the building. The support building really hasn't been decided if it's going to be one story, two stories, 75,000 square feet or up to 150,000 square feet. My concern is also it's kind of confusing. Some of the pictures that I see in there, the building will be right near my property line and it also shows it's near the bath house which is about 220 feet away from my property line and as the snow goes over the building 220 feet, yeah, the snow can drop down, my property won't be effected whatsoever if it is moved back to that part.</p>	Public Hearing	Auxillary Building 1
10/27/2022	Eric	Matwitjow	<p>Also, I noticed on page 17 a flaw -- or Section 17 which is a traffic report, page 23, and I think the consultant was WSP put this on. It states Hamburg lots parks 240 cars on roughly one acre of land, yet K&amp;K's parking lot which is seven acres parks 650 cars. Seven times 240 is 1680 cars. I would like to hire the consultant if I can get 240 cars on my property, my one acre of land. That's a flaw. That thing is -- a rule of thumb is 100 cars per acre.</p>	Public Hearing	Transportation 5
10/27/2022	Eric	Matwitjow	<p>Also I noticed it says during this --closing off of Big Tree Road going one way traffic empties out a half hour faster. Well, it added a half to Abbott Road because you cannot make a left-hand turn down Abbott making a left on Big Tree East. That I think should be fixed.</p>	Public Hearing	Transportation 3
10/27/2022	Eric	Matwitjow	<p>I noticed also there won't be any bridges going across due to the demand and the load of the people. I would recommend or suggest maybe two bridges and what happens, most of the people will leave for the first hour. After that put some gates up. Everybody that's left over that's lingering, go over the bridge, open up Abbott Road in front of the road block area an hour earlier to relieve the traffic because, as we know, there will be a couple more driveways and the bulk of the -- a couple more driveways on Abbott Road. This will maybe facilitate everybody leaving that way.</p>	Public Hearing	Pedestrian Safety 3
10/27/2022	Eric	Matwitjow	<p>Also, at one time before the remodel there was a plaque that honored our service people. It was a big rock. It's not there anymore. Maybe that would help out that gentlemen. I don't know whatever happened to that rock.</p>	Public Hearing	New Stadium Design Suggestion 3

10/27/2022	Eric	Matwitjow	<p>So that's about it. I'm a 35-year season ticket holder and going to almost every game living next to the stadium and I'm glad we actually had one of the 32 football teams. I don't know if putting a hotel right next to the stadium will help be an economic driver.</p> <p>I think if there's a hotel that should be in the Village of Orchard Park knowing that the RV lot, when there's people in the RV lot, they don't leave the lot.</p> <p>Thank you very much for your time.</p>	Public Hearing	Growth Inducing Impacts 1
10/27/2022	Richard	Lester	<p>Yes. I would like to say something. There needs to be involvement of the business development organization, I'm not sure of the acronym, from Erie County looking into the business aspect of this large project.</p> <p>If you look at, for instance, the city of Los Angeles when they built a new stadium they had an economic plan that provided employment for people. And I realize this is a group of the rich and the powerful, but the reality is with the shutdown of -- likely shutdown of the McKinley Mall which is adjacent, jobs and employment for people in Erie County, given the enormous economic stagnation that this county has suffered in the last 30 years, needs to be taken into consideration and this means that there should be a business development plan around the stadium.</p> <p>And I think it's up to Erie County, Erie County business development organization, through the County Executive and the County Legislature to come up with a plan. This would include zoning. It would include other things that need to be taken into consideration for proper economic development.</p> <p>If you look before they put in new stadiums, whether that's Cleveland, Ohio or wherever you want to go, this has been an economic driver. It's important to a low income county such as Erie County.</p> <p>I think that given the situation it's imperative that the plan and the county government come together with what is a longer term business plan given the importance of the Buffalo Bills for the entire county and for all the people.</p> <p>I mean, this particular county that we're in is the highest income town in the standard metropolitan statistical area which encompasses Erie County. I think given the situation there is a societal interest in making sure that there is proper development and employment and other opportunities are available to a resident -- all residents of the county.</p>	Public Hearing	Growth Inducing Impacts 1
10/27/2022	Augustin	Carducci	<p>My name is Augustin Carducci and I'm the owner of La Galleria Events on Southwestern Boulevard and I was just talking to the gentlemen from Populous and apparently we're the closest business to the stadium and we -- just to let you know what's happened, my parents bought that land when I was 11 years old and I'm headed towards 68 and we have been operating it for 52 years as a business and my daughters are next in line to carry it on.</p> <p>And we survived COVID sixteen months. Banquet halls were the epicenter of businesses that needed to be closed, but we're a conservative lot and we prepared for difficult times so we're fine with that.</p> <p>With the stadium, just to let you know what's happening with us, our main focus in banquets is weddings and we do a lot of outside weddings. There are gardens on both sides. It's three and a half acres.</p>	Public Hearing	Non Substantive



10/27/2022	Augustin	Carducci	So we've lost a lot of business even for next year with brides coming to us looking at the hall, finding it charming, lovely, well priced, but what about the noise?	Public Hearing	Construction 3
10/27/2022	Augustin	Carducci	What about the construction? What about the dust? Am I going to have my wedding dress covered with, you know, construction dust?	Public Hearing	Construction 2
10/27/2022	Augustin	Carducci	So, it has impacted us. Of course, we're Bills fans and we're happy that it's there, but it is having a big economic effect on us and it will for the next four years. I saw that in the report, not reading it acidulously, but reading it they mentioned the motel across the street, which has to be Maple Court, a two-story building, is mentioned as far as in a 90 decibel area and we're not included at all and we're a lot closer and we're two stories, too, so we'll be greatly effected. Just to let you know. Of course, we're so small and it's just a big project, but this is the impact it's having on us.	Public Hearing	Construction 3
10/27/2022	Unknown	Unknown	<p>I live between Milestrip and Southwestern which is by far the busiest section of Abbott Road, by far, and two years ago they redid that road and tore out the sidewalks that were already there. I had a perfect sidewalk there and they tore it out. Now I'm left with mud so I put stone down there so I don't have to get my mail in the mud. During the games the road crew puts up cones on the one side for people to walk in the street. Most of them aren't walking in that area. And why would you put people on the street, for one? They're walking on the sidewalk in my area tearing up whatever is left of my front yard and I don't understand why you'd not put sidewalks there when you have Southwestern Boulevard that has all of the --there is dealerships and we have sidewalks there.</p> <p>I see one person a year walking on the sidewalks. We get -- apart from coming from that direction up Abbott is where most people walk to the game by far. I'm sure that's in your report somewhere. I'm not sure, but you got eight side streets coming off Abbott Road, too, that people could be using that during --the regular time of the year and not during games.</p> <p>You got at least eight, probably ten side streets coming off between Southwestern and Milestrip, side streets off Abbott. The families could be riding their bikes and stuff. Nobody walks anymore. I've been living here 41 years so I have seen it all with the stadium.</p> <p>I used to ride there when they were building it with my bike when I was a kid, so I have no problem with it coming, but let's do something about the sidewalks on Abbott.</p> <p>That's all my concern is.</p>	Public Hearing	Pedestrian Saftey 1

10/27/2022	Stan	Gasiewicz	<p>Hi. I filled out the top of the form. I came in a little late.</p> <p>I've been a Hamburg resident. My name is Stan Gasiewicz and I live at 4914 Big Tree Road. I've been a Hamburg resident for 39 years and I live in one of the seven homes that are between the two entrances to ECC South Campus on Big Tree and at the last meeting one of the neighbors had brought up an issue, but before I get into that I just want to mention I've been accommodating the crowds over the 39 years, so I've grown to work with the crowds whether it's crowds for a football game or a concert or whatever else they have going on.</p> <p>I have no issue with that. There's always traffic on Big Tree Road waiting to get into one of the lots before they open. A lot of activity going on, so I don't have an issue with that.</p> <p>I also don't have any problems with my utilities and I know that came up before, so I'd like to keep it that way so we don't have an issue with any of the utilities where you can't flush your toilets or whatever.</p>	Public Hearing	Water Supply 3
10/27/2022	Stan	Gasiewicz	<p>The bigger issue for the neighbors that was brought up by Bernie at the last meeting was the parking lot between those two entrances at ECC Campus is filled up always and it starts at 9:00, so you have people partying, tailgating for four hours and, of course, they have to use the bathroom.</p> <p>So what they ended up doing on Bernie's property because he has a lot of evergreens is they would urinate all over his property, so he brought that up and in the time that I lived there there was always at least one Porta Potty. It's a small issue for the whole, but for the neighbors it would be great.</p> <p>And I did put this in my comments after the July meeting that we ought to have more than one because they usually would at the end of the drive coming into the parking lot area they have one there and I'm a season ticket holder, too, so I go to the games and I can see what is going on and there's a line waiting.</p> <p>Of course, the line is too big and people have to go, so they go anywhere. They go in any of the neighbor's property where you can hide, or not even hide. Some of them are so drunk they don't really care.</p> <p>So what I suggested is if we're going to continue with the tailgating in that lot or any of the others that are close by because there is another one off to the left, that we at least place a Porta Potty at least at each corner so that that frees it up.</p> <p>The issue I have with this year is I have gone to the games and I haven't seen any this year in that parking lot, so I'm thinking why are we going in the reverse direction? Is somebody paying attention to what you put in your comments or what?</p> <p>But that would help the neighbors and keep people in the lot if that's what we're going to continue with the tailgating. And I think it's great. I have lived in the neighborhood. I'm accustomed to it and I don't have an issue.</p> <p>I love going to the games. Now instead of walking ten, fifteen minutes I'll be walking five minutes to get to my seat, so it's a benefit and that's my comments and I did sign one of the sheets there.</p>	Public Hearing	Game Day Experience 1

10/27/2022	John	Unknown	<p>My name is John. I guarantee you that that first line up there I'm going to make you regret that, I think. We look forward to your comments. We are making the mistake of a lifetime by putting the stadium out here in Orchard Park. I live a mile away. I live at 219 and 20, okay. A mile away. I have no -- I'm not saying anything about traffic because traffic for the game stops at my street and I can get out and go the other way, anywhere I want to go. The Erie County Fair is the problem because that's just constant 55 miles an hour traffic, okay. That being said, we had March Madness here this past March or April, whatever. How many comments did we hear in the community that people that hadn't been here in Buffalo for how many years came back and the comments towards the difference in the area downtown, the improvements that were made. We don't need a destination out here in Orchard Park. It's taken -- you can look at how old I am, okay? It's taken that long to get things done downtown. Now we're going to drag development away from there?</p> <p>Now, I'm not here to talk about the Perry Projects because that's a timely, costly thing. I'm here to -- I have paperwork that I was in the City Hall today, okay? One of the lots that -- I'm talking lots just like across the street, where the infrastructure is going to be better, where there were buildings built there where we don't have to worry about artifacts, okay?</p> <p>It's not just put the shovel in the ground for a \$1.4 billion project. I get that.</p> <p>I was in construction my whole life. Again, look at my age, okay? It's a little more involved than that, but there is basically no difference going downtown and build it down there. Now, the tracks that go down here across 20 and into Orchard Park out into Hamburg,</p>	Public Hearing	Alternative location 1
10/27/2022	John	Unknown	<p>I'm not going to get into all the transportation. Anybody that tells me -- I have had conversations and talked to people one on one, five on one, whatever, to get to the hub of downtown. Downtown is the hub of the area. Orchard Park is not.</p> <p>We had the 190. We have the 33. We have Delaware Avenue. We have rapid transit. What I started to say about the rail, it wouldn't take hardly anything to get these lines -- the tracks are all there. They go right to the Amtrak station.</p> <p>It's a matter of whether we want to go diesel or electric or whatever, but the tracks will get you right there to the Amtrak station and I talked to one of the politicians' office a few years ago about going down to the DL&amp;W when they were talking about the overhead walkway and now they're working on that to get the light rail down through there and beyond there out the east side of it, okay.</p>	Public Hearing	Alternative location 1
10/27/2022	John	Unknown	<p>Looking at -- and I have heard my state assemblyman wants to bring people out here on rails. That's not the same as bringing people from out here into Buffalo because now you have to get people picked up from wherever you're going to drop them off and get them over here to the stadium as opposed to having them within a block or two of where I'm talking about.</p>	Public Hearing	Alternative location 1
10/28/2022	Nicole	Gesualdo	<p>And I'm just -- anybody wants to see this, , they're welcome to it. I'm not giving them to anybody. The area, if you know the comedy club -- if you know the Key Bank Center, Pegula Sports and Entertainment is right across the street from the parking garage. On the other side of the building is Mississippi Avenue. From Mississippi you got Baltimore, you got Columbia. Columbus or Columbia. That's all owned by Buffalo Urban Renewal. Just like this was transferred from the county to the state, somebody please tell me how we can't do the same thing down there.</p>	Website form	Ecological 1

10/28/2022	Paige	Howell	The preliminary design of the new Bills stadium includes a lot of glass that will cause a large number of bird collisions, resulting in massive amounts of dead birds on the sidewalks outside of the stadium. Luckily there are commercial scale solutions to this issue that could be implemented, should this initial design go ahead as planned. For one example, see <a href="https://www.featherfriendly.com/commercial">https://www.featherfriendly.com/commercial</a> .	Website form	Ecological 1
10/28/2022	Deborah	Mills	Preventing bird collisions during migrations must be included in the stadium's design. Are you working with the Audobon Society, as the Javitz Center recently did? <a href="https://www.nycaudubon.org/our-work/conservation/project-safe-flight/bird-friendly-building-design">https://www.nycaudubon.org/our-work/conservation/project-safe-flight/bird-friendly-building-design</a>	Website form	Ecological 1
10/28/2022	Lucas	Patronik	The transportation plan does not adequately address the negative impact to the health and safety of the residents in the neighborhoods off of big tree road. The construction traffic is planned to use the south entrances to the site off of big tree. You could not get closer to the residential areas if you wanted to. This plan increases light, noise, dust , vehicular traffic in the residential area that is used by pedestrians and bicyclists. The construction traffic for all equipment, workers, deliveries and any other construction traffic must be relocated to the north side of the site where there are no neighborhoods to mitigate the impact to the residential neighborhoods.	Website form	Construction 1
10/28/2022	Jason	Patronik	The neighborhoods to the south will be negatively impacted by noise, light, dust pollution. The stadium will be in full sight. We are requesting that a 100' large tree forested buffer zone be established along the entire south side of the limits of the project to provide greenspace , habitat, noise filtering, light filtering and dust filtering as the new stadium is much closer to residential areas than the existing. This would help mitigate the negative effects of pollution and community character.	Website form	Aesthetics 1
10/28/2022	Jason	Patronik	Additionally we are specifically requesting that the greenspace that was deeded to the town of hamburg on the southside of Big tree road between Parker and Manor Lane (adjacent to the parker playground) be converted to a large densely planted evergreen forested area to mitigate the line of site negative aesthetic impact, noise, light and dust pollution that the construction and the final project will ultimately bring to our neighborhood. These mitigations are in concert with all town codes and county initiatives. Our quality of life in our neighborhood will be severely impacted , weather your studies show it or not. Put yourselves in our shoes and think about this massive construction project in your backyard. How would you think it would impact your neighborhood? The least the state and the county and the owners can do is provide a natural forested buffer area between the mammoth structure and the residences around it. The current plan does absolutely nothing and ignores our concerns.	Website form	Aesthetics 1
10/28/2002	Michael	Jakubowski	I don't agree with any taxpayer dollars going toward the new stadium.	Website form	Public Funding 1
10/28/2002	Joyce	Mosher	I am very much against spending tax revenue on this stadium. It is outrageous to me that you would spend so much money on something that isn't necessary, doesn't keep us safe, will not be used by most New Yorkers. The owners are billionaires. They don't pay state and local property taxes. And the rich get richer off the backs of the little guy. Hypocrite Democrats. I hope this deal does not happen with our money.	Website form	Public Funding 1

10/28/2022	Bob	Harper	My personal opinion they have missed the mark with the design of the new stadium. The stadium should be able to be used year round which includes the winter months. Maybe we could have gotten a college bowl game and call it the Buffalo Blizzard Bowl. Or maybe on New Year's Eve have a huge carnival in the stadium and think about this maybe some of our seniors want to go to the game but due to medical conditions can't handle the elements. Or winter concerts, I just wish they would have seriously considered a domed stadium.	Website form	Design Suggestion 2
10/29/2022	Deb	Gilpin	Please use bird safe glass designs. They also save energy which will be better for the climate and your bottom line.	Website form	Ecological 1
10/30/2022	Isabelle	Pardew	<p>The renderings of the new stadium show elevations that will use large amounts of reflected plate glass. I, in addition to numerous environmental communities, am concerned that this design will pose a significant risk to migratory birds that may collide with the glass.</p> <p>Suggest that bird-friendly design measures should be implemented in elevation planning (i.e., using glass with visual markers) as well as lighting design for the stadium.</p> <p>Please do not make the same mistake as the Minnesota Vikings did in 2014, when they constructed a \$1 billion stadium. They could have applied bird-safe measures – even using local companies – for an additional 0.1% of the total cost. Instead, they spent money to conduct a study that showed it's one of the city's most dangerous buildings for bird-window collisions, killing at least 111 birds a year. Now they are working to mitigate the problem.</p> <p>Please see the link below for more information:  <a href="https://www.nycaudubon.org/our-work/conservation/project-safe-flight/bird-friendly-building-design">https://www.nycaudubon.org/our-work/conservation/project-safe-flight/bird-friendly-building-design</a></p>	Website form	Ecological 1
10/31/2022	Dr. James	Cubie	YOU can protect birds at a cost of about 2 10ths of 1 % of the cost of the building. Contact me for economic analysis jimcubie1@gmail.com	Website form	Ecological 1
10/31/2022	Scott	Pulver	Since we the taxpayers are on hook for 800 + million dollars at least put a roof on it so it can be used for more than 8 games a year. Also, the current stadium has been in OP for 50 years with very little development around it (Tim Hortons, fly by night motels and bars). Building the stadium downtown at the rumored location of the outdated and boarded up Perry Projects would have brought a ton of people downtown and given existing restaurants, hotels and the Casino a huge boost. What amount of new development would have happened around a downtown stadium?	Website form	Alternative Location 1

10/31/2022	Janine	Ortman	<p>I just reviewed the SEQR information for the new Bills stadium. I did not see any information re LEEDS a certification??? I'd think it is a terrible mistake to not pursue this. We need to create the greenest and friendliest stadium possible- like other teams have done - Nationals Park in DC, Mercedes Benz Park in Georgia, Levi's Stadium in California, American Airlines Arena in Florida. Anything less is really not acceptable. I recently saw the County Executive indicate that a "LEEDS a certification is just too expensive"....Well, in my opinion. We can not afford NOT to have this certification and meet these standards. We know the climate and the environment are changing right before our eyes in real time. If we do not continue to do something about it, there will be nothing left for future generations. Mr Pegula recently made a large jump on the FOR ES 400 list- his estimated worth is 6.7 billion! He jumped up 60 spots! What better way to really give back to the community that wholeheartedly and lovingly supports his team than by building the most environmentally friendly stadium possible for himself, the community, the team, and the future. If I recall, he made his money fracking in Pennsylvania- here is a chance to reverse that unfriendly environmental trend and do something really beneficial for the community and the future. Perhaps Mr. Pegula can make up the difference in funds and pay for the upgrades to make this a LEEDS certifiable stadium. He has 6.7 Billion- is there a better way to spend it than helping the community, preservation of wildlife , and less of a Drain on the environment???? Thank you.</p>	Website form	Design Suggestion 1
10/31/2022	Bonnie	Zuckerman	<p>The renderings of the new stadium show elevations that will use large amounts of reflected plate glass. I, in addition to numerous environmental communities, am concerned that this design will pose a significant risk to migratory birds that may collide with the glass. Please do not make the same mistake as the Minnesota Vikings did in 2014, when they constructed a \$1 billion stadium. They could have applied bird-safe measures – even using local companies – for an additional 0.1% of the total cost. Instead, they spent money to conduct a study that showed it's one of the city's most dangerous buildings for bird-window collisions, killing at least 111 birds a year. Now they are working to mitigate the problem. Suggest that bird-friendly design measures should be implemented in elevation planning (i.e., using glass with visual markers) as well as lighting design for the stadium.</p>	Website form	Ecological 1
11/1/2022	Janine	Ortman	<p>I just read in the buff News this am that the Tennessee Titans football Team is contributing 300\$ million more dollars to their new stadium project in Tennessee than the Buffalo Bills football team is contributing to their new stadium here in Buffalo. Hmmm... seems like the Pegulas should be on the line to contribute millions more to make this stadium more environmentally friendly and LEEDS compliant- it can be done- the money is there - Mr Pegula is worth billions- how incredibly sad if they are not asked to step up for the future of this community and his team. You may say that asking them to do so is out of the SEQR realm- but if not you- then who???? Thank you</p>	Website form	Public Funding 1

11/1/2022	Augustin	Carducci	I own La Galleria Events at 3923 Southwestern Boulevard, Orchard Park, next to Lot 4 of Highmark Stadium. This land was purchased by our family in 1966 with the intention of building a house and then a motel and restaurant. All of those were accomplished successfully. The initial restaurant evolved into a present day 400 seat event center, catering mainly to weddings with outside ceremonies. In fact, we have won the Couples' Choice Award now for 12 consecutive years. It's popularity was such that in 2019 we had architectural renderings drawn up for a 3 1/2 million dollar expansion. When Covid hit in 2020 it was difficult with no business for 16 months and little to no governmental assistance. However, we returned to a healthy profitability in 2021, unlike many others. Unfortunately, we then experienced a drop in bookings due to the announcement of the new Bills Stadium which will be built very near our back property line. Our wedding customers have voiced their concerns over noise and dust due to the construction process. These were risks the couples were unwilling to take. In reading the Noise Impact Study and Construction Noise Management Plan, we are not even listed as one of the POR and we are closer than POR1.	Website form	Construction 2
11/1/2022	Augustin	Carducci	Again, our business of over 45 years is weddings with outside ceremonies. Outside ceremonies that will be impacted by air and noise pollution due to dump trucks, back hoes, bulldozers, excavators, pavers and the like working til 9 pm on Fridays and 7 pm on Saturdays. This situation is untenable for ceremonies that take place between 3:30 - 6:30 every weekend. Loss of these weddings is a loss of millions of dollars and the loss of employment for 25 - 35 mostly very long term employees. The purpose of this email is to bring to light the fact that our outdoor business is adjacent to the new Bills Stadium site, yet we have been overlooked as a business that will be very negatively impacted by the consequences of the construction. Sincerely, Augustin Carducci	Website form	Construction 3
11/1/2022	Marlena	Wood	I am a college student studying conservation. The tall and highly reflected plate glass planned into the stadium's design will most certainly be a serious threat to birds, especially migratory birds. Please consider implementing bird-friendly design measures and mitigation techniques, such as visual markers on the glass and bird-friendly lighting design. Birds cannot distinguish between glass reflection and open space. Please protect our friends in flight!	Website form	Ecological 1
11/1/2022	Matthew	Davison	As co-chair of the 25+ member Business Backs Buffalo Football committee, I write for the project record that our group has reviewed the publicly available lead agency package, technical addendums, and environmental impact assessment forms, and we are of the belief that no significant adverse environmental impacts exist as a result of the new stadium project. Furthermore, we believe that a determination of non-significance (Negative Declaration) should be prepared and that the project should proceed as rapidly as possible. The new stadium is critical to keeping NFL football and the Buffalo Bills franchise in Upstate New York for years to come.  Thank you for the opportunity to submit this feedback.	Website form	SEQRA Process 2

11/1/2022	Mark	Lester	<p>The traffic assessment and traffic management plan does not take into account any vehicles that park in private parking lots on Route 20A/Big Tree Road between Abbott Road and the entrance to Lot 1 of the stadium. The addresses of these lots, acreage, and approximate number of vehicles parked on these lots not included in the traffic assessment and traffic management plan include the following:</p> <p>4297 Route 20A/Big Tree Rd. 1.5 acres 240 vehicles  5227 Route 20A/Big Tree Rd. 0.5 acres 60 vehicles  5241 Route 20A/Big Tree Rd. (vacant land) 2.0 acres 240 vehicles  5242 Route 20A/Big Tree Rd. (vacant land) 0.5 acres 60 vehicles  5248 Route 20A/Big Tree Rd. 0.3 acres 20 vehicles  5255 Route 20A/Big Tree Rd. 2.0 acres 240 vehicles  5265 Route 20A/Big Tree Rd. 1.0 acres 120 vehicles  5277 Route 20A/Big Tree Rd. 1.0 acres 120 vehicles</p> <p>Current traffic management after a stadium event consists of placing barricades across Route 20A at Lot 1 preventing vehicles from traveling eastbound. Traffic is also blocked from traveling westbound on Route 20A at Abbott Road. This results in trapping all these vehicles from exiting these lots located between the Lot 1 entrance and Abbott Road. Vehicles in these lots cannot exit these lots eastbound or westbound until those barriers to traffic are removed on Route 20A several hours after a stadium event. This results in well over 1,000 vehicles trapped and unable to exit after a stadium event. There must be a way for these vehicles to exit in a timely manner. It is unfair to not allow these vehicles to exit their lots until several hours after the game. Vehicles that park in these lots need to be included in any traffic management plan and should be given consideration during any post-game traffic management plan.</p>	Website form	Transportation 2
11/1/2022	Susan	Pardew	<p>The renderings of the new stadium show elevations that will use large amounts of reflected plate glass. I, in addition to numerous environmental communities, am concerned that this design will pose a significant risk to migratory birds that may collide with the glass. Suggest that bird-friendly design measures should be implemented in elevation planning (i.e., using glass with visual markers) as well as lighting design for the stadium. Please do not make the same mistake as the Minnesota Vikings did in 2014, when they constructed a \$1 billion stadium. They could have applied bird-safe measures – even using local companies – for an additional 0.1% of the total cost. Instead, they spent money to conduct a study that showed it's one of the city's most dangerous buildings for bird-window collisions, killing at least 111 birds a year. Now they are working to mitigate the problem. Please see the link below for more information:  <a href="https://www.nycaudubon.org/our-work/conservation/project-safe-flight/bird-friendly-building-design">https://www.nycaudubon.org/our-work/conservation/project-safe-flight/bird-friendly-building-design</a></p>	Website form	Ecological 1



11/2/2022	Todd	Neubauer	<p>I don't want to see a totally modern stadium that looks like a snake head popping up out of the ground.</p> <p>Why couldn't you use modern materials, but still maintain a new-classical architectural style? That is the superior building style, because classic aesthetics incorporates the Golden Mean and other "sacred geometry".</p> <p>What you propose is a postmodern monstrosity.</p>	Website form	New Stadium Design Suggestion 6
11/2/2022	Pam	Perna	<p>The renderings of your new stadium show elevations that will use large amounts of reflected plate glass. As a citizen advocate for birds and other wildlife, I am deeply concerned that this design will pose a significant risk to migratory birds that may collide with the glass.</p> <p>The dangers to birds posed by the use of such expanses of reflective glass are well known. Fortunately, there are numerous ways that these dangers can be mitigated if not completely eliminated. Bird-friendly design measures include using glass with visual markers as well as a bird-friendly lighting design for the stadium.</p> <p>Please do not make the same mistake the Minnesota Vikings did in 2014, when they constructed a \$1 billion stadium without applying bird-safe measures which would have comprised just 0.1% of the total cost. Instead, they spent money to conduct a study that showed it's one of the city's most dangerous buildings for bird-window collisions, killing at least 111 birds a year. Now they are working to mitigate the problem.</p> <p>For more information, please see the link below:</p> <p><a href="https://www.nycaudubon.org/our-work/conservation/project-safe-flight/bird-friendly-building-design">https://www.nycaudubon.org/our-work/conservation/project-safe-flight/bird-friendly-building-design</a></p> <p>Thank you for considering this important issue. Migratory birds currently face unprecedented challenges, and it is up to all of us to do what we can to help them.</p>	Website form	Ecological 1

11/2/2022	Jonathan	Freirich	<p>As Western New Yorkers who remember that the Bills got their start on the East Side of Buffalo, on the site of the Johnny B. Willie complex, we appreciate our Bills and we ask that the Bills owners, Erie County, and New York State, commit to the following so that more of us are prosperous enough to enjoy going to a Bills game:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- \$500 Million over the course of 30 years to be disbursed annually into community grants for Youth Mentoring, Health Equity, Affordable Housing, and Student Athletics.</li> <li>- CBA Community Governance, an annual RFP process for the public, annual public hearings, members shall have voting power on financial decisions, and a public application process for members of the CBA oversight committee to be appointed fairly.</li> <li>- A public transportation plan that includes free workforce shuttles, a public transit port inside the stadium complex, pedestrian walkways on the roads outside the stadium, and countywide bus route improvements so that all WNYers can access the new stadium for work and entertainment.</li> <li>- Vendor contact inclusion for marginalized communities within construction, supplies, retail, and post-construction employment.</li> </ul>	Website form	CBA 2
11/2/2022	Jonathan	Freirich	<p>For the owners of the Buffalo Bills to hold Western New York hostage, again, with a threat of taking the Bills elsewhere unless the billionaire owners received another \$850 Million of public money up front, is a pretty bold demand.</p> <p>For the Bills' owners, as well as the State of New York and Erie County, to in turn make no real commitment to return some of what will be billions of dollars in Buffalo Bills profit from the new stadium in any concrete way to enhance the prosperity of Western New Yorkers, seems like a betrayal at best.</p>	Website form	Public Funding 1
11/2/2022	Joseph	Mahfoud	<p>The central terminal makes a great site which signifies the great Buffalo architecture of the roaring 20's.</p> <p>Use 75% of the structure as the entrance to the field. You could never afford to build a piece of architecture like that again.</p> <p>There are miles of train tracks to repurpose for parking and highway connections. It revitalizes the depleted east side of Buffalo.</p> <p>No one in the league could produce a piece like the central terminal.</p>	Website form	Alternative Location 1
11/2/2022	Jill	Adams	I'm concerned that this stadium is not bird friendly. Please use bird friendly design practices!!!!	Website form	Ecological 1
11/2/2022	Lucas	Lloyd	<p>With all of the available real estate on the East Side of Buffalo, why isn't the stadium being built in a location that would be most beneficial to the communities who need the economic boon? Think of all the new shops and attractions that could be developed in a several-miles radius of a new Buffalo Bills Stadium? Orchard Park is already upper-middle class region; it doesn't need the extra economy like the City of Buffalo needs it. If taxpayers' dollars are being applied, shouldn't economic benefit to the most people be of central concern??</p>	Website form	Alternative Location 1

11/2/2022	Christine	Sheppard	The construction of the new Buffalo Bills stadium presents an excellent opportunity to incorporate bird-friendly materials into a world class facility and make the Bills a leader in bird conservation. American Bird Conservancy would like to see the Bills follow the example set by the Milwaukee Bucks when they built Fiserv Forum, another beautiful building designed by Populous, and indeed go even further to ensure that 100% of the façade of Bills Stadium is bird friendly. Fortunately, many bird-friendly materials are now available that reduce collisions while remaining aesthetically pleasing and increasing sustainability. Up to one billion birds die following collisions with glass in the U.S. each year and American Bird Conservancy is hopeful that the Bills will not add a single bird to that staggering total.	Website form	Ecological 1
11/2/2022	Karl	Blomback	Build it can't wait!!	Website form	Non-substantive
11/2/2022	Timmy	Gleen	As a Bills fan for years, I'd like to believe it be better for the stadium to be moved in the inner city in actual "Buffalo". In a rising economy and growing population, it's actually genius to move the stadium to Buffalo, it'll create opportunities for people in the city also will boost business and bring more attraction into "Buffalo". You may have heard this countless number of times, I'm just another voice that disagrees with this move, and believe it will hurt the franchise moving forward. Buffalo been waiting for this for years, I hope you change your mind about it all! God bless.	Website form	Alternative Location 1
11/2/2022	Emily	Dailey	I became a season ticket holder in 2018 after I was able to have weekends off for the first time in my life. I love the Bills and I'm Thankful they were kept in Buffalo. I am 6 foot tall, and 300lbs (I know you understand size given you are a professional football team) I sit in the bleacher seats of section 225 and its perfect. Please consider a spot in the stadium for bleachers or seats without arm rests, I don't mind squishing to fit in the seat but to sit in a seat with arm rests that dig into your hips and leave you black and blue all week. I often buy two seats when I travel or sit business class just to fit. I know there are people bigger than me and taller than me and I know they would appreciate it. Also, please do not put a cup holder where your knees would go, like in the Keybank Center, I can't go to a Sabres game because I know I can't fit because a cup holder jots out where a tall persons legs should go. Just some feedback from me, Thank you and Go Bills!	Website form	New Stadium Design Suggestion 7
11/2/2022	Lynda	Schneekloth	DEC SEQRA handbook: "all state and local ..agencies must consider environmental impacts equally with social and economic factors..." and the "DEIS must be prepared at a point 'where genuine flexibility remains before bureaucratic momentum strips it of any real influence on decision making.'" A SEQRA should have begun with the question: Do we need a new stadium? That question was never considered, nor was it really considered 'where' as it was clear where the owners wanted it.	Website form	SEQRA Process 3
11/2/2022	Lynda	Schneekloth	The Environmental Assessment ignores the most critical issue facing our region, state and the globe - climate change. We are told we can't even do a LEED certification process because it would cost too much -- because we did not start when it could have made a difference. Again, our region ignores the entire rationale for the State Environmental Quality Review. We are poorer for this lack of serious consideration of the issues, including missed opportunities, that should be addressed to accompany the investment of public dollars.	Website form	New Stadium Design Suggestion 1

11/2/2022	Joshua	Greene	The opportunity to significantly reduce vehicle trips by locating the stadium in the city was gravely missed. Therefore, to mitigate the induced emissions of CO2 by continuing to locate a sea of parking lots in a rural setting, a significant contribution of the CBA should be directed towards improving the NFTA in the City of Buffalo and ridership opportunities to the stadium. Improving the NFTA transit to the stadium would contribute to reducing vehicle trips to the stadium thus mitigating CO2 emissions.	Website form	CBA 2
11/2/2022	Joshua	Greene	The CBA should and needs to be a community-centered process, closed-door negotiations benefits no one besides those in the room.	Website form	CBA 2
11/3/2022	Charles	Banas	<p>You can tell a lot about a region's values and the quality of its leadership by where and how its civic buildings are constructed. These days, this applies perhaps most particularly to professional sports stadiums. As mounds of evidence demonstrate, the only way a stadium can generate meaningful and sustained spinoff economic activity is by locating it downtown or in a similarly connected urban environment. An isolated, suburban, automobile-oriented site induces essentially zero attendant economic or cultural benefits.</p> <p>If we indeed desire negligible return on a massive public investment, then the current location in Orchard Park is the perfect choice.</p> <p>In comparison, a downtown or downtown-adjacent location is the best choice for an array of well-established reasons. All of the region's major highways converge there. Downtown is the hub for all regional transit—buses and light rail—and all planned connections to U.B North Campus, Niagara Falls, as well as inter-regional transportation like Amtrak and the metro line to the airport. There's more than enough space—the destructive "urban renewal" schemes of the past have cleared-out vast swaths of land in and near downtown, creating fallow wastelands for decades, but perfect for the rare project of this scope.</p> <p>A new city-center stadium complex would be walkable to existing attractions and amenities, including Canalside and the Outer Harbor, Harborcenter and KeyBank Center, and downtown restaurants, bars, hotels, stores, and other businesses. As seen in other cities, this would create a mutually beneficial cycle of new investment and vitality, stabilizing and strengthening the admittedly fragile revival already taking place downtown, and extending the stadium's impact well beyond the mere handful of football games and other events that annually take place there. It would add real value to both the city and region. It would signal to the nation that the Buffalo area truly has its act together and is moving in a decisively positive direction.</p>	Website form	Alternative Location 1
11/3/2022	Charles	Banas	A downtown stadium is the right thing to do for all the right reasons—economic, cultural, social. This project represents a perfect chance to act as a catalyst for our area's continued revival. Instead, despite some recent progress, it will be a sign—whether or not rightly deserved—of Buffalo's continued amateur status as a city and region, and be remembered by future generations as yet another opportunity squandered by mediocre, small-minded leadership.	Website form	Alternative Location 1

FEEDBACK FROM:

Charles Gelia  
442 Ruskin Rd  
Buffalo, NY 14226

MESSAGE:

Absolutely NO!!!! We are being blackmailed!! Somehow, by way of some miracle, we are able to play the 2022 season in the current stadium. Something tells me that, if we tried, we could play next year there too, and the next 10 years as well. Bills don't like it? PLEASE, PLEASE GO ELSEWHERE AND PREY ON THE TAXPAYERS THERE.

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**From:** J.Dale Shoemaker <[jdshoemaker@investigativepost.org](mailto:jdshoemaker@investigativepost.org)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 19, 2022 6:41 PM

**To:** Meyer, Daniel

**Subject:** Bills sustainability questions - Investigative Post

Hi Dan,

As I mentioned, here are some questions I have for the county executive and/or others negotiating the stadium deal with the Bills. Some are general, some are technical. I would appreciate answers to each question, rather than a generalized statement, specifically for the more technical questions. The story will touch on SEQR, sustainability, and the CBA. Here's what I've got:

1. The EAF indicates that the new stadium is a Type 1 action under SEQRA, that it will have [significant impacts in a number of categories](#), and that Erie County will seek a negative declaration under SEQRA. Why is that appropriate?
2. Despite using more sustainable lights and other elements, the [Energy Demand Narrative](#) states the new stadium will use more electricity than the current stadium. Will the Bills take any steps to conserve electricity? Will the county require greater efforts to conserve electricity?
3. What will be the source of the electricity (wind, natural gas, nuclear, solar, etc.)? Has this topic been part of the discussions with the Bills? Will the county require the stadium to use clean energy?
4. Similarly, despite stating the new stadium will use low-flow water fixtures, the SEQR documents do not make it clear if the new stadium will actually use less water, particularly given the grass field. The records indicate the current stadium uses around 20.64 million gallons per year. How much water (est. gallons per year) will the new stadium use?
5. Will the county require the Bills to conserve water with the stadium?
6. For the indoor spaces of the new stadium, how will they be heated? And how much energy will heating those spaces require?
7. Regarding stormwater, the SEQR documents indicate total runoff will be reduced by 18%. Is that a number the county is happy with? Does the county plan to do more on that front?
8. Regarding demolition, will any parts of the old stadium be reused? Will any be recycled?

9. Are climate or sustainable elements part of the county's negotiations with the Bills, or the CBA discussions? If they are, what topics are being discussed?

10. An expert I spoke with said surface parking lots and stadiums offer a unique opportunity to install solar panels to offset electricity use. Will solar panels be part of any part of the project? Why or why not?

11. The Buffalo News reported today that community groups are upset they've not been included in the CBA discussions. Will the public have a chance to offer input on a proposed CBA before one is agreed to?

I thank you for your time and attention to these questions. Please call if you need me to clarify anything. I'll be out in the field so calling my cell is best: 814-215-0509.

Best,  
Dale

--

**J. Dale Shoemaker**

Reporter

Cell/WhatsApp/Signal: 814-215-0509

Office: 716-831-2626 ext.5

Twitter: @JDale\_Shoemaker

**InvestigativePost**

487 Main St., #300, Buffalo, NY 14203

FEEDBACK FROM:

ernest Siemaszko

22 INNER DR

LACKAWANNA, NY 14218

MESSAGE:

i am against spending tax payers money for a new stadium so all the profits go into the Pegulas pockets and roads are driving in mine fields except around the stadium and they are smooth as a babies butt . Plus how much is it going to cost the tax payers for each game.



FEEDBACK FROM:

William Schell  
5300 Wethersfield Road  
Silver Springs, NY 14550

MESSAGE:

I have serious concerns with the lead planner on this project. Who is dictating the design for this new NFL stadium? Poloncarz is cheating out at the expense of everything that is good leadership.

Seems like shortcuts all around to support a natural gas mogul's wishes without much consideration for the taxpayer dollars or ongoing, resource-sucking footprint this stadium will have on people and the environment. (That's what it seems like.)

"Bills stadium NOT seeking LEED certification" article:

<https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.wgrz.com/amp/article/news/investigations/investigative-post/bills-stadium-to-be-a-paler-shade-of-green-buffalo-money-football-sports/71-c9023359-a629-431f-9cd1-f0eda28ea942>

At the state and local level, our government system is squandering the biggest opportunity New York has to be a true leader and make a statement in green design. Not seeking LEED cert is, frankly, trash planning.

I am a taxpayer. Please do better.

Kind regards,

William Schell

FEEDBACK FROM:

Jeremy Besch  
54 Truesdale Rd  
Buffalo, New York 14223

MESSAGE:

I hope that PS&E can be helped to see this CBA as a strategic opportunity for cementing their place in our community as a leader and long-term partner for public betterment. It represents a true commitment to the people of WNY for positive change that can have DECADES of of positive impact, built directly into a project that is already happening, and that can be truly representative of Buffalo's potential for national and international leadership in community building, genuine civic engagement, and smart private/public partnership.

FEEDBACK FROM:

Forrest Almasi

148 sullivan st

New york, NY 10012

MESSAGE:

Please make sure you use bird safe glass. That design is a death trap. The streets will be littered with dead birds because they can't see the glass.

FEEDBACK FROM:

Krystal Anton  
5701 N Robinhood Ln  
Kansas City, MO 64151

MESSAGE:

For five years I have been involved in bird studies picking up birds that have hit glass on buildings. I have 700 birds under my name alone, part of thousands that have been collected in Kansas City on a relatively small area. The Minnesota Vikings didn't listen when concerns were brought up, they are now under serious scrutiny, make the news for the number of birds killed every year, and are trying to figure out what to do because whether you, or they, care even a little, this is very important to the future of birds. It's estimated 50-70% of them have been lost already, and diversity is crashing. Windows kill an estimated one billion every year in North America alone. I know, my husband worked on the Vikings practice facility, that there is enough money to do bird safe glass when building stadiums. So there just needs to be a will to do the right thing. Please do the right thing.

FEEDBACK FROM:

Lindsay Barnett

P.O. Box 1974

Monrovia, CA 91017

MESSAGE:

Since the stadium is situated along a migratory route crucial for bird populations, please ensure that only bird-safe glass is used in its construction. Thank you.

FEEDBACK FROM:

Tamara Bedic, Esq.  
40-17 209th St  
Bayside Queens, NY 11361

MESSAGE:

I am very concerned about this stadium being in the flight path of migratory species of birds-- species already struggling with secondary pesticide ingestion, climate change, destroyed habitat, pollution, etc.

What, if anything, are planners/architects doing to ensure the glass is bird-safe?

Scanning your Environmental Site Assessment, both Michael Delaney and Mary Beth Facklam of LaBella are geologists; neither can address the environmental impact of native birds migrating over the stadium and the inevitable bird collisions that will result if the glass is not bird-safe.

Bird-safe options include:

- \*GUARDIAN GLASS
- \*ORNILUX MIKADO GLASS
- \*BENDHEIM CHANNEL GLASS
- \*GLASPRO BIRD SAFE GLASS
- \*VIRACON<sup>®</sup> BIRD-FRIENDLY GLASS APPLICATIONS and
- \*WALKER AVIPROTEK<sup>®</sup> GLASS

All of the above use advanced UV coatings combined with laminated glass to limit bird collisions while leaving views CLEAR and OPEN.

The technology exists. Please loop in avian experts and innovative glass tech to minimize death-by-collision.

Thank you,

Tamara Bedic, Esq.

President

National Lawyers Guild, NYC

FEEDBACK FROM:

Rina Berka  
27 Dosoris Lane  
Glen Cove, New York 11542

MESSAGE:

While I understand the want to make the new stadium look beautiful. You need to keep the birds in mind when designing the stadium. Over 20 million birds migrate through this area of NY and if you don't keep the birds in mind you are going to have thousands of collision victims. The environment and bird lovers don't want this travesty to happen and I'm sure that sport fans don't want to see dead birds all around the stadium. Please take the environmental assessment seriously and follow the simple and affordable options to make the new stadium safe for the bird community!

FEEDBACK FROM:

Melissa Breyer

64 Havemeyer Street, Apartment 4

Brooklyn, NY 11211

MESSAGE:

Hi! The stadium is in a county that has already had 30 million federally protected migratory birds pass through this fall. If the large swaths of reflective glass shown on the stadium plans are not designed to be bird-friendly, the sidewalks and adjacent areas will be piled high with dead songbirds that have crashed into the glass. This will be traumatic for wildlife and for Bills' fans! PLEASE consider making this glass bird-friendly, and having stadium lighting that complies with bird-friendly practices. Do us proud and don't become a site known as a bird migration deathtrap!



FEEDBACK FROM:

Janice Bridgers  
248 N 6th St  
Brooklyn, NY 11211

MESSAGE:

I've read that your new stadium will impose a big threat to migrating birds who crash into glass buildings. Please do your best to consider this problem and to,ask for help in how to mitigate it.  
Thank you. Janice Bridgers

FEEDBACK FROM:

R Burstein  
923 Massachusetts Ave  
Cambridge, MA 02139

MESSAGE:

The design is beautiful, but I'm concerned that all the glass will become an unintentional bird-killing trap. Please consider bird and animal safety in your design!

FEEDBACK FROM:

Heidi Clevon  
648 Union St  
Brooklyn, NY 11215

MESSAGE:

Hi, please please consider using bird safe glass for this building. Up to 1 billion birds die every year due to collisions with glass (<https://audubonportland.org/our-work/rehabilitate-wildlife/being-a-good-wildlife-neighbor/birds-and-windows/>). We need to do better! Thank you for reading my comment. Regards, Heidi

FEEDBACK FROM:

TM Cooler

340 East 86th st

New york, NY 10028

MESSAGE:

Why are you trying to kill millions of migrating birds???

FEEDBACK FROM:

Gary Cutright  
64 Barthel St Lower  
Buffalo, NY 14211

MESSAGE:

Shame on the county executive for allowing unions to build the stadium instead of saving money by using non union employees. It would be cheaper not to use union. It's time to start thinking about us the taxpayers or everyone of you will be voted out who support wasting more than needs to be wasted.

FEEDBACK FROM:

Matthew DeGulis  
552 Riverside Drive  
New York, NY 10027

MESSAGE:

Please use bird-safe glass for the outside windows. Buffalo sees millions of migratory birds every spring and fall. It will be a PR headache for the Bills when the birder groups constantly post about hundreds of dead birds outside the stadium every day. Bird safe glass is proven to prevent collisions and is used in construction projects all over the world.

FEEDBACK FROM:

Willow English  
2-137 Willow St, Apartment 2  
Ottawa, ON k1r 6w2

MESSAGE:

Hello, I am extremely concerned about the proposed design of this building - specifically the risk it will pose to birds. Buffalo is on a major flight path for birds, and millions will migrate by the city. They get drawn in by light pollution, then are at risk of colliding with glass. The amount of glass in the proposed design mean that it will pose a threat to birds. Given that North America has lost almost a third of its birds in the last 50 years, the last thing we need is another threat. Luckily there's very simple solutions: patterned glass. This will break up the reflections that cause birds to collide, and allow them to identify that the glass is a solid object. While most bird-friendly glass has a simple dot pattern, you can also get creative and make the pattern with your logo or other symbols. Toronto used a pattern of athletic symbols for the bird-safe glass at the aquatics centre built for the PanAmerican Games, and a library in Ottawa has glass patterned with letters of the alphabet. Making this stadium bird-friendly would have a negligible cost compared to the overall budget, and ensures compliance with the Migratory Bird Act. It would also be a great PR story for your organization, and help spread the word about protecting wildlife.

FEEDBACK FROM:

Feizal Fakier

58 W 72nd street, Apt 6A

New York, NY 10023

MESSAGE:

Let's set aside that any of our effing tax dollars should go to a billionaire's organization's building (idgaf about this nonsense about jobs creation, it's a crap argument)... but there are millions of birds that pass through this fly way to migrate to as far as lower South America. A huge percentage of them don't make it due to window collision - glass buildings. These animals have to travel a great distance, find food, shelter and avoid predation. Why do we need more glass? Aesthetics? How many birds have to die so that our (unwilled) tax payer funded building can reign in more money for the wealthy and provide mediocre (at best) jobs? - disgusted



FEEDBACK FROM:

Andrew Farnsworth  
414 E 52nd St PHC  
New York, NY 10022

MESSAGE:

Please consider thoroughly the incorporation of bird safe glass and bird friendly lighting solutions as imperatives in your planning for the Buffalo Bills Stadium. Bird populations in the US and Canada have declined precipitously in the last 50 years, with staggering losses across an enormous number of species. Annually, up to ONE BILLION birds are killed in collisions with buildings and structures, especially those with reflective glass and intensive use of lights to illuminate. Please follow the guidance of the American Bird Conservancy and others in choosing approaches to your designs and construction that stem the tide of these horrible losses. This would be an enormous win for the organization off the field and on the field alike if you do this, an inspiration for sports teams and facilities around the country and the world. I am happy to provide details regarding bird safe glass and bird friendly lighting solutions. Know that if you implement these solutions, you will be happily protecting some of the 35 MILLION birds that pass through Erie County every football season.

Sincerely,

Andrew Farnsworth, Ph.D.  
Cornell Lab of Ornithology  
Center for Avian Population Studies

FEEDBACK FROM:

MATT Fischer

1958 David's View W

West Bend, Wisconsin 53090-8981

MESSAGE:

I am concerned the design is too glass heavy and many birds will die during their migration spring and fall. Take a look at Fiserv Forum in Milwaukee.

<https://www.fiservforum.com/news/detail/fiserv-forum-is-the-worlds-first-bird-friendly-arena>

FEEDBACK FROM:

Abby Frawley  
15 Harding Street, 2  
Cambridge, MA 02141

MESSAGE:

Hello! As a Bills fan, wildlife enthusiast, and former WNY'er, I urge you to consider using bird friendly glass and design for the new stadium. Western NY is an important area for migrating birds, and glass buildings cause fatalities during migration. I'd love to see a stadium that celebrates two things that make NY great - both the Buffalo Bills and the birds!

FEEDBACK FROM:

Edward Gaillard  
412 East 81st St.  
New York, NY 10028

MESSAGE:

The proposed design appears to use a lot of reglective glass. That's going to kill many thousands of migratory birds every year. You can considerably reduce the impact by using bird-safe glass and lighting techniques and other bird-friendly design methods. I urge you to consult with the Audubon Society and the American Bird Conservancy. Buffalo and all of New York deserve a stadium that is both beautiful and environmentally sound.

FEEDBACK FROM:

PAUL GROLEAU

2207 Dunwin Drive

Toronto, Ontario L5L 1X1

MESSAGE:

Bills supporter and think a new stadium is needed. Love the design but please consider Bird Safe Glass in the design and development. Vikings stadium should have included this in their design and chose not to and it is a disaster for bird collisions. Up to 1 Billion birds die per year just in North America due to window collisions and there are scientifically proven solutions. If I can ever be of more assistance, even just to educate I would be happy to. Paul Groleau - [www.featherfriendly.com](http://www.featherfriendly.com)

FEEDBACK FROM:

Jason Kerr  
59 Grasmere Cr  
London, ON N6G 4N7

MESSAGE:

Really concerned about the amount of glass and what will be done to prevent wildlife from crashing/flying into it and littering the place with dead animals. The area is really close to ravine/creek/woods so it's likely to be a real issue.

FEEDBACK FROM:

Matt Klein  
23 Signal Drive  
Lancaster, NY 14086

MESSAGE:

Excited to see the team staying in Buffalo! Hoping we are not being short sighted and can make this more of a year round venue (a smaller version of Gillette Stadium and surrounding area). Would have loved a dome to protect from the elements, but appears it's not in the cards. So my BIG THREE ITEMS are:

1. LAYOUT: There is frustration where many fans need to stand the whole game (or much of it) to see. A layout like Baltimore has, helps minimize this with added breaks between sections, doubling as a space for pedestrian traffic too. THIS IS A HUGE HELP. as it creates more seats with unobstructed viewing so people are less inclined to stand.
2. SAFETY. From a safety perspective it would be beneficial to provide added protection for those walking to and from the game. The stadium lots can't hold everyone. There should be guiderails at the streets edge anywhere where there are police controlling traffic. I walk southwestern from California to the stadium and cars are zipping by after the game. It takes on person not paying attention, a tire blowing out, an intoxicated driver, a person looking to do harm etc., to veer into the multitude of people that are packing the sidewalk that are just there to support their team. It seems CrAZy to me not to have better protection. Please add this as part of the stadium work.
3. PSL's. I'm glad we have great ownership (and prayers for Kim), They are doing very well financially (Forbes list etc), while many fans are struggling. to make ends meet. I am hopeful there are no PSL's, or if there are that they are minimal. I would suggest if there are PSL's, THAT THEY BE STAGGERED BY SENIORITY, whereas the longer you have been a season ticket holder, the LESS EXPENSIVE the PSL should be, as you have paid your dues sitting through the good and that bad over the years This would show the team cares about it's greatest supporters.

Thank you for your consideration on the above. As always, GO BILLS!

FEEDBACK FROM:

Colette Lageoles  
345 8th Avenue  
New York, NY 10001

MESSAGE:

I just looked at the renderings for the Buffalo Bills stadium, and it shows large amounts of reflective plate glass. I am concerned that this design will pose a significant risk to migratory birds that migrate through Western New York increasing the chance of window collisions. According to the US Fish and Wildlife, special glass can greatly minimize bird strikes. Here is the link: <https://www.fws.gov/story/threats-birds-collisions-buildings-glass>  
Please consider using bird-friendly glass. Thank you.



FEEDBACK FROM:

Gavin Leighton  
20 Parish Road  
Cheektowaga, New York 14225

MESSAGE:

Hello,

My name is Gavin Leighton and I am a professor of biology at Buffalo State. I just saw the potential design of the new Bills stadium, and while a new stadium is exciting the rendering incorporates a considerable amount of reflective glass. A considerable amount of research shows that this sort of glass will cause a large number of collisions with resident and migrating birds, thus reducing many populations that are already shrinking. I am writing to ask you to incorporate bird-friendly design in this glass to reduce collisions. As part of my research is on birds I would be happy to provide recommendations for how to try to minimize collisions with this building.

Thank you,  
Gavin

FEEDBACK FROM:

Stu Mackenzie

Front

Port Rowan, Ontario N0E1M0

MESSAGE:

Please consider bird safe building practices - bird friendly glass or other design modifications.

FEEDBACK FROM:

Beth Mai

4 Stanton Place

London, Ontario N6p1E1

MESSAGE:

Please consider using bird friendly design standards.

**FEEDBACK FROM:**

Joshua Malbin  
140 E 2nd St Apt 4D  
Brooklyn, NY 11318

**MESSAGE:**

The proposed stadium build will be in a major migratory flyway through which millions and millions of migrating birds pass each year. Window strikes are one the biggest human causes of bird mortality each year, and North American bird populations are in major decline. Any design must include bird-safe glass and design to minimize window strikes or will be a terrible step in the wrong direction. Fortunately these changes are very feasible and need not significantly affect construction.

FEEDBACK FROM:

Izak Marker

29 East 37th Street, Apt 4B

New York, NY 10016

MESSAGE:

What is being done to ensure bird populations will not be disrupted by the glass used in this stadium. Please consider options to mitigate against literal high impact.

FEEDBACK FROM:

Calista McRae  
124 Adams St #305  
Newark, NJ 07105

MESSAGE:

Hi! Thanks for the opportunity to leave feedback. The sheer extent of what looks like normal, reflective plate glass is likely to kill hundreds of migratory birds each spring and again each fall. Please consider bird-friendly glass -- it can be extremely unobtrusive to human eyes. We just need finely spaced visual indicators, so that birds can recognize the glass as an obstacle and avoid it. The American Bird Conservancy's collisions program can advise you, as could NYC Audubon: the products now on the market are aesthetically pleasing and incredibly effective (when the Javits Center was redone, using bird-friendly glass, the collision rate was cut by 95%). But it will be far, far more cost-effective to implement bird-friendly glass from the start. And it will save the lives of thousands of endangered species, over the years.

FEEDBACK FROM:

Paul Mitchel

11

Newbury, NY RG14 6DB

MESSAGE:

The design is a missed opportunity to create something unique, and intimidating. Get the fans closer, think of a design that can help create an atmosphere better and improve as much as you can to ensure any noise reverberates around the stadium. I'm personally a big fan of a single tier stand behind one of the endzones but use some more imagination to make this unique. I'm not saying more expensive, but make it stand out from the rest of the stadiums out there.

FEEDBACK FROM:

Mike ODonnell  
3663 abbott road  
orchard park, NY 14127

MESSAGE:

I think that to not build a new Buffalo Bills Stadium without a dome is a Very, Very Big mistake. We are missing out on a great opportunity to make Western New York a great place to watch the Bills and attend concerts and other events and even future NFL Superbowls. Why waste this great opportunity to build a world class facility that will not only satisfy the Bill's fan Mafia base but also allow great music events and many other great events all year round. Please don't miss this opportunity to get a lot of additional revenue and I mean a lot of additional revenue back into this regional are for many many years to come. Please don't be shortsighted in this venture. This means a very great opportunity for Buffalo and all of western New York to prosper in the many years to come.



FEEDBACK FROM:

Randall O'Donnell  
44 Pointview Drive  
Troy, NY 12180

MESSAGE:

The design is very pretty, but the amount of glass it uses is concerning. Millions of birds migrate through NY each year, and the glass is very danger for them. Billions of birds die from window collisions each year.  
I also don't think fans would be thrilled to see dead birds littering the ground on their way to games.

FEEDBACK FROM:

Amanda Parsels

77 Fulton St., Apt. 19-E

New York, New York 10038

MESSAGE:

I urge you to ensure that the glass of the new stadium uses bird safe glass features. These unobtrusive measures preserve beauty and functionality while ensuring that the tens of thousands of songbirds, warblers, woodpeckers, timberdoodles, and other birds do not die in droves at the foot of your stadium.

FEEDBACK FROM:

Aarti Patel

58 West 72nd Street, APT 6A

New York, NY 11201

MESSAGE:

As a resident of NY state, a conservationist and environmentalist, the glass windows of the new proposed stadium is absolutely damaging to migratory bird species during spring and fall migration seasons, causing a number of window collisions and preventable deaths of bird species, many of which have already seen steep decline in population because of window collisions. This is completely preventable, we as New Yorkers have a responsibility to care for the non-human visitors that pass through our beautiful state, and to make sure they are protected during their travels. That's what New Yorkers do. Please do the right thing and make sure the stadium bird proofs accurately and thoughtfully.

FEEDBACK FROM:

D. Perez  
17 Gillis  
Fredonia, NY 14063

MESSAGE:

Renditions shown of the glass encased outside of the new stadium are causing a huge amount of concern due to the danger this glass design poses to migrating birds. Please ensure that the glass has proper anti-reflective, bird safe treatment applied to it, so that thousands of migrating birds do not die every week against these windows. What a horrible thing if Bills fans have to step over dead and dying birds writhing on the concrete when they walk in and out of games. As someone who lived for many years in New York City I can tell you this happens every morning during fall migration at the new World Trade Center buildings. It's traumatic to everyone who works there, even people who don't care about wildlife. And it's easily remedied, so please make sure this is handled properly. Thank you.

FEEDBACK FROM:

Vicki Puluso

14 Washington Place, Apt. 8D

New York, New York 10003-6664

MESSAGE:

Please, please bird proof all that glass! Nearly 25 million migratory birds have already flown through Erie County this Fall, many endangered. This construction could be a disaster for them.

FEEDBACK FROM:

Caroline Quinn  
245 East 93rd St #11D  
New York, NY 10128

MESSAGE:

Please, please ensure that the plans include bird-friendly treatments on all that glass or this design will likely end up killing dozens if not hundreds of migrating birds moving along the Atlantic Flyway each spring and fall!

FEEDBACK FROM:

Brendon Samuels  
4600 California Road  
Orchard Park, New York 14127

MESSAGE:

The renderings of this building show elevations that will use large amounts of reflective plate glass. I am concerned that this design will pose a significant risk to migratory birds that may collide with the glass. Suggest that bird friendly design measures should be implemented in elevation planning (i.e., using glass with visual markers) as well as lighting design for the stadium. Please see link below for more information about current best practices in New York.  
<https://www.nycaudubon.org/our-work/conservation/project-safe-flight/bird-friendly-building-design>

FEEDBACK FROM:

Ann Sanderson

Delaware Ave

Toronto, Ontario M6H2T7

MESSAGE:

I am not from Buffalo but live in Toronto which is on the same migratory bird flight route. If the design proceeds as drawn without treating the glass with bird friendly fritting it will be a big problem for bird strikes. It's preventable if the proper care is taken with the glass.



FEEDBACK FROM:

Nancy Solomon  
10 Birchwood Circle  
Sharon, MA 02067

MESSAGE:

The design of this stadium is a terrible idea for migratory birds. Effort has to be made to make the glass less dangerous.

FEEDBACK FROM:

Heidi Trudell

Pearl

Ypsilanti, MI 48197

MESSAGE:

Based on the renderings, it looks like the stadium will have significant amounts of glass - it's imperative that the design incorporates best practices for bird safe building and lighting methods in order to prevent mortality events at the stadium.

FEEDBACK FROM:

Owen Ward  
530 West 113  
New York, NY 10025

MESSAGE:

The large amounts of glass will be disastrous for the millions of migrating birds which pass through this area every year. This needs to be changed.

FEEDBACK FROM:

Cathy Yee  
150 50th Avenue  
Long Island City, NY 11101

MESSAGE:

29M migratory birds fly through New York county. Having a glass stadium is going to kill A LOT of birds. Please have some compassion and design something that will not kill millions of wildlife.

<https://www.fws.gov/story/threats-birds-collisions-buildings-glass#:~:text=Every%20year%20nearly%20one%20billion,stop%20shelters%20cause%20bird%20collisions.>

**FEEDBACK FROM:**

Nicole Gesualdo  
4019 N Sheridan Rd  
Chicago, IL 60613

**MESSAGE:**

Please please make sure any glass you use in the design is bird-safe! This will make sure your great new stadium is a benefit to both fans and wildlife. Thank you!

FEEDBACK FROM:

Bob Harper

P. O. Box 499

Niagara Falls, NY 14305

MESSAGE:

My personal opinion they have missed the mark with the design of the new stadium. The stadium should be able to be used year round which includes the winter months. Maybe we could have gotten a college bowl game and call it the Buffalo Blizzard Bowl. Or maybe on New Year's Eve have a huge carnival in the stadium and think about this maybe some of our seniors want to go to the game but due to medical conditions can't handle the elements. Or winter concerts, I just wish they would have seriously considered a domed stadium.

FEEDBACK FROM:

Paige Howell  
265 N. Main St.  
South Hadley, MA 01075

MESSAGE:

The preliminary design of the new Bills stadium includes a lot of glass that will cause a large number of bird collisions, resulting in massive amounts of dead birds on the sidewalks outside of the stadium. Luckily there are commercial scale solutions to this issue that could be implemented, should this initial design go ahead as planned. For one example, see <https://www.featherfriendly.com/commercial>.

FEEDBACK FROM:

Michael Jakubowski  
1621 Schoellkopf Road  
Lake View, NY 14085

MESSAGE:

I don't agree with any taxpayer dollars going toward the new stadium.



FEEDBACK FROM:

Deborah Mills

457 FDR Dr

New York, NY 10002

MESSAGE:

Preventing bird collisions during migrations must be included in the stadium's design. Are you working with the Audobon Society, as the Javitz Center recently did? <https://www.nycaudubon.org/our-work/conservation/project-safe-flight/bird-friendly-building-design>

FEEDBACK FROM:

Joyce Mosher

99 Erie St.

Lakewood, NY 14750

MESSAGE:

I am very much against spending tax revenue on this stadium. It is outrageous to me that you would spend so much money on something that isn't necessary, doesn't keep us safe, will not be used by most New Yorkers. The owners are billionaires. They don't pay state and local property taxes. And the rich get richer off the backs of the little guy. Hypocrite Democrats. I hope this deal does not happen with our money.

FEEDBACK FROM:

Jason Patronik  
PO Box 81  
Orchard Park, NY 14127

MESSAGE:

This project is the largest construction project this region has ever seen- right next door to my neighborhood and 3 other neighborhoods. We have very serious health, safety , and quality of life concerns with the construction activities that are going to take place over 4-5 years. With a few minutes I had today I jotted some of the concerns down here-

1- Dust- this construction activity will create thousands of tons of airborne particulates that are currently not there. We know that particulate air pollution is linked to many diseases.

Dust is a general term used to describe different dusts that you may find on a construction site. There are three main types:

- \* silica dust – created when working on silicacontaining materials like concrete, mortar and sandstone (also known as respirable crystalline silica or RCS);
- \* wood dust – created when working on softwood, hardwood and wood-based products like MDF and plywood;
- \* lower toxicity dusts – created when working on materials containing very little or no silica. The most common include gypsum (eg in plasterboard), limestone, marble and dolomite.

· Anyone who breathes in these dusts should know the damage they can do to the lungs and airways. The main dust-related diseases are:

- \* lung cancer;
- \* silicosis;
- \* chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD);
- \* asthma.

Some lung disease, like advanced silicosis or asthma, can come on quite quickly.

Most of these diseases take a long time to develop. Dust can build up in the lungs and harm them gradually over time. The effects are often not immediately obvious. Unfortunately, by the time it is noticed the total damage done may already be serious and life changing. It may mean permanent disability and early death.

2- Noise pollution. The construction activities will result in 12- 24 hour per day noise pollution for 4-5 years that currently does not exist. The neighborhoods are very close to this site. “noise pollution can cause high blood pressure and subsequent heart problems. The high-decibel signals that get sent to the brain can stimulate the brain in such a way that it releases adrenaline which can over-excite your heart and cause stress. Children are especially susceptible to noise pollution. Studies have shown that noise pollution leads to impaired memory, attention, and reading skill.

Considering the long term construction , a positive declaration should be issued for noise pollution for the 4-5 year construction impacts.

3- The neighborhood residents in the manor lane/Marilyn Dr. Have not had the opportunity to review a photo simulation to be able to evaluate the line of site impact on the neighborhood. The photo simulations were evaluated from far away locations that appear to be "hand picked" to show the best situation possible. The new stadium is at grade and much higher. Currently the existing stadium is out of site from these vantage points. We would like a photo-simulation from the corner of parker and bigtree road and kathleen and big tree road in order to further evaluate the line of site.

The new stadium is within the line of site from our neighborhood and should be considered to negatively effect the existing characteristic of the neighborhood. A positive declaration for seqr in that it substantially negatively changes the character of the neighborhood should be issued.

4-light Pollution- the activities at this site will create construction light pollution for 4-5 years that currently does not exist. Lights from all angles from construction vehicles.

A n increased amount of light at night lowers melatonin production, which results in sleep deprivation, fatigue, headaches, stress, anxiety, and other health problems. Recent studies also show a connection between reduced melatonin levels and cancer.

5- property values- studies have shown that property values decrease during local large scale construction projects. My homes value will be surpressed for the duration of construction and has a 33% chance of staying devalued after construction completion.

I would like to know How this will be compensated to me? Property tax reduction?

6- Construction traffic. Currently it is busy enough on 20a ( big tree rd) and Abbott. There have been pedestrian fatalities in the area. We dont want construction vehicles "in our backyards " and local streets for obvious reasons. All construction traffic should come off route 20 and entirely remove it from the neighborhoods to the south and east to mitigate the dangerous construction traffic proximity to the residential areas to the south and south east of the site. This will help reduce negative traffic impacts as my children use the local roads on their bicycles - we dont need another death on the streets.

Considering there is no plan for public safety regarding construction traffic A positive declaration should be made.

Although there is a current stadium near the existing site - it was built when this area was a farm field. The concerns back then were ignored. We know a lot more about environmental health impacts and their health effects now. This project isnt a quick 4 month construction. The construction activities will have long term 4-5 year construction and health impacts on the community and local neighborhoods. Due to the longevity of the project it significantly multiplies these health impacts.

It is our concern that the health impacts to local residents are being ignored and replaced by grandiose photo renderings of the new stadium and the beautiful seating arrangements. As the neighborhood is maby 2000 individuals and the bills Are backed by Billions of dollars and Hundreds of thousands fans- we fear we are going to be ignored and suffer negative health consequences after the 4-5 years of constant construction.

As far as the stadium itself we have the same concerns as we have with construction along with-

1- the height of the stadium is proposed to be 50 ft higher than the top of the existing light towers.this will put it on high ground and highhly visible to the neighborhood. Currently we cannot see the bills stadium. When this is built it will negatively impact the community character as it is rater rural and quiet currently. There will be significant light and noise pollution more than the current stadium as there will be higher lights and more use.

What will the Bills owners and NYS do to remediate our health concerns?

FEEDBACK FROM:

Lucas Patronik  
4904 Marilyn Dr  
Hamburg, NY 14075

MESSAGE:

The transportation plan does not adequately address the negative impact to the health and safety of the residents in the neighborhoods off of big tree road. The construction traffic is planned to use the south entrances to the site off of big tree. You could not get closer to the residential areas if you wanted to. This plan increases light, noise, dust , vehicular traffic in the residential area that is used by pedestrians and bicyclists. The construction traffic for all equipment, workers, deliveries and any other construction traffic must be relocated to the north side of the site where there are no neighborhoods to mitigate the impact to the residential neighborhoods.

FEEDBACK FROM:

Deb Gilpin

750 Sandpiper Trl Apt 202

Cottage Grove, WI 53527

MESSAGE:

Please use bird safe glass designs. They also save energy which will be better for the climate and your bottom line.

FEEDBACK FROM:

Isabelle Pardew  
1300 Aintree Road  
Towson, Maryland 21286

MESSAGE:

The renderings of the new stadium show elevations that will use large amounts of reflected plate glass. I, in addition to numerous environmental communities, am concerned that this design will pose a significant risk to migratory birds that may collide with the glass.

Suggest that bird-friendly design measures should be implemented in elevation planning (i.e., using glass with visual markers) as well as lighting design for the stadium.

Please do not make the same mistake as the Minnesota Vikings did in 2014, when they constructed a \$1 billion stadium. They could have applied bird-safe measures – even using local companies – for an additional 0.1% of the total cost. Instead, they spent money to conduct a study that showed it's one of the city's most dangerous buildings for bird-window collisions, killing at least 111 birds a year. Now they are working to mitigate the problem.

Please see the link below for more information:

<https://www.nycaudubon.org/our-work/conservation/project-safe-flight/bird-friendly-building-design>



FEEDBACK FROM:

Augustin Carducci  
3923 Southwestern Boulevard  
Orchard Park, New York 14127

MESSAGE:

I own La Galleria Events at 3923 Southwestern Boulevard, Orchard Park, next to Lot 4 of Highmark Stadium. This land was purchased by our family in 1966 with the intention of building a house and then a motel and restaurant. All of those were accomplished successfully. The initial restaurant evolved into a present day 400 seat event center, catering mainly to weddings with outside ceremonies. In fact, we have won the Couples' Choice Award now for 12 consecutive years. It's popularity was such that in 2019 we had architectural renderings drawn up for a 3 1/2 million dollar expansion. When Covid hit in 2020 it was difficult with no business for 16 months and little to no governmental assistance. However, we returned to a healthy profitability in 2021, unlike many others. Unfortunately, we then experienced a drop in bookings due to the announcement of the new Bills Stadium which will be built very near our back property line. Our wedding customers have voiced their concerns over noise and dust due to the construction process. These were risks the couples were unwilling to take.

In reading the Noise Impact Study and Construction Noise Management Plan, we are not even listed as one of the POR and we are closer than POR1. Again, our business of over 45 years is weddings with outside ceremonies. Outside ceremonies that will be impacted by air and noise pollution due to dump trucks, back hoes, bulldozers, excavators, pavers and the like working til

9 pm on Fridays and 7 pm on Saturdays. This situation is untenable for ceremonies that take place between 3:30 - 6:30 every weekend. Loss of these weddings is a loss of millions of dollars and the loss of employment for 25 - 35 mostly very long term employees.

The purpose of this email is to bring to light the fact that our outdoor business is adjacent to the new Bills Stadium site, yet we have been overlooked as a business that will be very negatively impacted by the consequences of the construction.

Sincerely,

Augustin Carducci

FEEDBACK FROM:

Dr. James M. Cubie  
736 West Desert Hills Drive  
Green valley, AZ 85622

MESSAGE:

YOU can protect birds at a cost of about 2 10ths of 1 % of the cost of the building. Contact me for economic analysis  
[jimcubie1@gmail.com](mailto:jimcubie1@gmail.com)

FEEDBACK FROM:

Janine Ortman  
1320 Girdle Rd  
Elma, NY 14059

MESSAGE:

Hello

I just reviewed the SEQR information for the new Bills stadium. I did not see any information re LEEDS a certification???

I'd think it is a terrible mistake to not pursue this. We need to create the greenest and friendliest stadium possible- like other teams have done - Nationals Park in DC, Mercedes Benz Park in Georgia, Levi's Stadium in California, American Airlines Arena in Florida. Anything less is really not acceptable. I recently saw the County Executive indicate that a "LEEDS a certification is just too expensive"....Well, in my opinion. We can not afford NOT to have this certification and meet these standards. We know the climate and the environment are changing right before our eyes in real time. If we do not continue to do something about it, there will be nothing left for future generations. Mr Pegula recently made a large jump on the FOR ES 400 list- his estimated worth is 6.7 billion! He jumped up 60 spots! What better way to really give back to the community that wholeheartedly and lovingly supports his team than by building the most environmentally friendly stadium possible for himself, the community, the team, and the future. If I recall, he made his money fracking in Pennsylvania- here is a chance to reverse that unfriendly environmental trend and do something really beneficial for the community and the future. Perhaps Mr. Pegula can make up the difference in funds and pay for the upgrades to make this a LEEDS certifiable stadium. He has 6.7 Billion- is there a better way to spend it than helping the community, preservation of wildlife , and less of a Drain on the environment????? Thank you.

A recently moved up the

FEEDBACK FROM:

Scott Pulver  
PO Box 249  
Irving, NY 14081

MESSAGE:

Since we the taxpayers are on hook for 800 + million dollars at least put a roof on it so it can be used for more than 8 games a year. Also, the current stadium has been in OP for 50 years with very little development around it (Tim Hortons, fly by night motels and bars). Building the stadium downtown at the rumored location of the outdated and boarded up Perry Projects would have brought a ton of people downtown and given existing restaurants, hotels and the Casino a huge boost. What amount of new development would have happened around a downtown stadium?

FEEDBACK FROM:

Marlena Wood  
1421 Graham Farm Circle  
Severn, Maryland 21144

MESSAGE:

I am a college student studying conservation. The tall and highly reflected plate glass planned into the stadium's design will most certainly be a serious threat to birds, especially migratory birds. Please consider implementing bird-friendly design measures and mitigation techniques, such as visual markers on the glass and bird-friendly lighting design. Birds cannot distinguish between glass reflection and open space. Please protect our friends in flight!

FEEDBACK FROM:

Bonnie Zuckerman  
9601 Torino Rd  
Ellicott City, MD 21042

MESSAGE:

The renderings of the new stadium show elevations that will use large amounts of reflected plate glass. I, in addition to numerous environmental communities, am concerned that this design will pose a significant risk to migratory birds that may collide with the glass.

Suggest that bird-friendly design measures should be implemented in elevation planning (i.e., using glass with visual markers) as well as lighting design for the stadium.

Please do not make the same mistake as the Minnesota Vikings did in 2014, when they constructed a \$1 billion stadium. They could have applied bird-safe measures – even using local companies – for an additional 0.1% of the total cost. Instead, they spent money to conduct a study that showed it's one of the city's most dangerous buildings for bird-window collisions, killing at least 111 birds a year. Now they are working to mitigate the problem.

Please see the link below for more information:

<https://www.nycaudubon.org/our-work/conservation/project-safe-flight/bird-friendly-building-design>

FEEDBACK FROM:

Matthew Davison  
620 Main Street  
Buffalo, New York 14202

MESSAGE:

As co-chair of the 25+ member Business Backs Buffalo Football committee, I write for the project record that our group has reviewed the publicly available lead agency package, technical addendums, and environmental impact assessment forms, and we are of the belief that no significant adverse environmental impacts exist as a result of the new stadium project. Furthermore, we believe that a determination of non-significance (Negative Declaration) should be prepared and that the project should proceed as rapidly as possible. The new stadium is critical to keeping NFL football and the Buffalo Bills franchise in Upstate New York for years to come.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this feedback.



FEEDBACK FROM:

Mark Lester  
5265 Big Tree Road  
Orchard Park, New York 14127

MESSAGE:

The traffic assessment and traffic management plan does not take into account any vehicles that park in private parking lots on Route 20A/Big Tree Road between Abbott Road and the entrance to Lot 1 of the stadium. The addresses of these lots, acreage, and approximate number of vehicles parked on these lots not included in the traffic assessment and traffic management plan include the following:

4297 Route 20A/Big Tree Rd.	1.5 acres	240 vehicles
5227 Route 20A/Big Tree Rd.	0.5 acres	60 vehicles
5241 Route 20A/Big Tree Rd. (vacant land)	2.0 acres	240 vehicles
5242 Route 20A/Big Tree Rd. (vacant land)	0.5 acres	60 vehicles
5248 Route 20A/Big Tree Rd.	0.3 acres	20 vehicles
5255 Route 20A/Big Tree Rd.	2.0 acres	240 vehicles
5265 Route 20A/Big Tree Rd.	1.0 acres	120 vehicles
5277 Route 20A/Big Tree Rd.	1.0 acres	120 vehicles

Current traffic management after a stadium event consists of placing barricades across Route 20A at Lot 1 preventing vehicles from traveling eastbound. Traffic is also blocked from traveling westbound on Route 20A at Abbott Road. This results in trapping all these vehicles from exiting these lots located between the Lot 1 entrance and Abbott Road. Vehicles in these lots cannot exit these lots eastbound or westbound until those barriers to traffic are removed on Route 20A several hours after a stadium event. This results in well over 1,000 vehicles trapped and unable to exit after a stadium event. There must be a way for these vehicles to exit in a timely manner. It is unfair to not allow these vehicles to exit their lots until several hours after the game. Vehicles that park in these lots need to be included in any traffic management plan and should be given consideration during any post-game traffic management plan.

FEEDBACK FROM:

Janine Ortman  
1320 Girdle Road  
Elma, NY 14086

MESSAGE:

I just read in the buff News this am that the Tennessee Titans football Team is contributing 300\$ million more dollars to their new stadium project in Tennessee than the Buffalo Bills football team is contributing to their new stadium here in Buffalo. Hmm... seems like the Pegulas should be on the line to contribute millions more to make this stadium more environmentally friendly and LEEDS compliant- it can be done- the money is there - Mr Pegula is worth billions- how incredibly sad if they are not asked to step up for the future of this community and his team. You may say that asking them to do so is out of the SEQR realm- but if not you- then who???? Thank you

FEEDBACK FROM:

Susan Pardew  
1300 Aintree Road  
Towson, Maryland 21286

MESSAGE:

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Suggest that bird-friendly design measures should be implemented in elevation planning (i.e., using glass with visual markers) as well as lighting design for the stadium.

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Please see the link below for more information:

<https://www.nycaudubon.org/our-work/conservation/project-safe-flight/bird-friendly-building-design>

FEEDBACK FROM:

Jill Adams  
8982 wetbanks ct  
Columbia, Md 21044

MESSAGE:

I'm concerned that this stadium is not bird friendly. Please use bird friendly design practices!!!!

**FEEDBACK FROM:**

Karl Blomback  
7 Glencove Ct  
Orchard Park, NY 14127

**MESSAGE:**

Build it can't wait!!

FEEDBACK FROM:

Emily Dailey  
7839 Erie Rd.  
Derby, NY 14047

MESSAGE:

I became a season ticket holder in 2018 after I was able to have weekends off for the first time in my life. I love the Bills and I'm Thankful they were kept in Buffalo. I am 6 foot tall, and 300lbs (I know you understand size given you are a professional football team) I sit in the bleacher seats of section 225 and its perfect. Please consider a spot in the stadium for bleachers or seats without arm rests, I don't mind squishing to fit in the seat but to sit in a seat with arm rests that dig into your hips and leave you black and blue all week. I often buy two seats when I travel or sit business class just to fit. I know there are people bigger than me and taller than me and I know they would appreciate it. Also, please do not put a cup holder where your knees would go, like in the Keybank Center, I can't go to a Sabres game because I know I can't fit because a cup holder jots out where a tall persons legs should go. Just some feedback from me, Thank you and Go Bills!

FEEDBACK FROM:

Jonathan Freirich  
387 Woodbridge Ave  
Buffalo, NY 14214

MESSAGE:

For the owners of the Buffalo Bills to hold Western New York hostage, again, with a threat of taking the Bills elsewhere unless the billionaire owners received another \$850 Million of public money up front, is a pretty bold demand.

For the Bills' owners, as well as the State of New York and Erie County, to in turn make no real commitment to return some of what will be billions of dollars in Buffalo Bills profit from the new stadium in any concrete way to enhance the prosperity of Western New Yorkers, seems like a betrayal at best.

As Western New Yorkers who remember that the Bills got their start on the East Side of Buffalo, on the site of the Johnny B. Wilie complex, we appreciate our Bills and we ask that the Bills owners, Erie County, and New York State, commit to the following so that more of us are prosperous enough to enjoy going to a Bills game:

- \$500 Million over the course of 30 years to be disbursed annually into community grants for Youth Mentoring, Health Equity, Affordable Housing, and Student Athletics.
- CBA Community Governance, an annual RFP process for the public, annual public hearings, members shall have voting power on financial decisions, and a public application process for members of the CBA oversight committee to be appointed fairly.
- A public transportation plan that includes free workforce shuttles, a public transit port inside the stadium complex, pedestrian walkways on the roads outside the stadium, and countywide bus route improvements so that all WNYers can access the new stadium for work and entertainment.
- Vendor contact inclusion for marginalized communities within construction, supplies, retail, and post-construction employment.

FEEDBACK FROM:

Timmy Gleen  
450 Claremont Ave  
Buffalo, New York 14223

MESSAGE:

As a Bills fan for years, I'd like to believe it be better for the stadium to be moved in the inner city in actual "Buffalo". In a rising economy and growing population, it's actually genius to move the stadium to Buffalo, it'll create opportunities for people in the city also will boost business and bring more attraction into "Buffalo". You may have heard this countless number of times, I'm just another voice that disagrees with this move, and believe it will hurt the franchise moving forward. Buffalo been waiting for this for years, I hope you change your mind about it all! God bless.



**FEEDBACK FROM:**

Joshua Greene  
107 Ashland Ave  
Buffalo, NY 14222

**MESSAGE:**

The opportunity to significantly reduce vehicle trips by locating the stadium in the city was gravely missed. Therefore, to mitigate the induced emissions of CO<sub>2</sub> by continuing to locate a sea of parking lots in a rural setting, a significant contribution of the CBA should be directed towards improving the NFTA in the City of Buffalo and ridership opportunities to the stadium. Improving the NFTA transit to the stadium would contribute to reducing vehicle trips to the stadium thus mitigating CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. The CBA should and needs to be a community-centered process, closed-door negotiations benefits no one besides those in the room.

FEEDBACK FROM:

Lucas Lloyd  
44 Tacoma Ave  
Buffalo, NY 14216

MESSAGE:

With all of the available real estate on the East Side of Buffalo, why isn't the stadium being built in a location that would be most beneficial to the communities who need the economic boon? Think of all the new shops and attractions that could be developed in a several-miles radius of a new Buffalo Bills Stadium? Orchard Park is already upper-middle class region; it doesn't need the extra economy like the City of Buffalo needs it. If taxpayers' dollars are being applied, shouldn't economic benefit to the most people be of central concern??

FEEDBACK FROM:

Joseph Mahfoud  
62 Argonne Dr  
Kenmore, NY 14217

MESSAGE:

The central terminal makes a great site which signifies the great Buffalo architecture of the roaring 20's.

Use 75% of the structure as the entrance to the field. You could never afford to build a piece of architecture like that again.

There are miles of train tracks to repurpose for parking and highway connections. It revitalizes the depleted east side of Buffalo.

No one in the league could produce a piece like the central terminal.

FEEDBACK FROM:

Todd Neubauer  
66 Vernon Place  
Buffalo, NY 14214

MESSAGE:

I don't want to see a totally modern stadium that looks like a snake head popping up out of the ground.

Why couldn't you use modern materials, but still maintain a new-classical architectural style?

That is the superior building style, because classic aesthetics incorporates the Golden Mean and other "sacred geometry".

What you propose is a postmodern monstrosity.

FEEDBACK FROM:

Pam Perna  
15074 Bushy Park Rd  
Woodbine, Maryland 21797

MESSAGE:

The renderings of your new stadium show elevations that will use large amounts of reflected plate glass. As a citizen advocate for birds and other wildlife, I am deeply concerned that this design will pose a significant risk to migratory birds that may collide with the glass.

The dangers to birds posed by the use of such expanses of reflective glass are well known. Fortunately, there are numerous ways that these dangers can be mitigated if not completely eliminated. Bird-friendly design measures include using glass with visual markers as well as a bird-friendly lighting design for the stadium.

Please do not make the same mistake the Minnesota Vikings did in 2014, when they constructed a \$1 billion stadium without applying bird-safe measures which would have comprised just 0.1% of the total cost. Instead, they spent money to conduct a study that showed it's one of the city's most dangerous buildings for bird-window collisions, killing at least 111 birds a year. Now they are working to mitigate the problem.

For more information, please see the link below:

<https://www.nycaudubon.org/our-work/conservation/project-safe-flight/bird-friendly-building-design>

Thank you for considering this important issue. Migratory birds currently face unprecedented challenges, and it is up to all of us to do what we can to help them.

FEEDBACK FROM:

Lynda Schneekloth  
601 w ferry street  
Buffalo, ny 14222

MESSAGE:

DEC SEQRA handbook: "all state and local ..agencies must consider environmental impacts equally with social and economic factors..." and the "DEIS must be prepared at a point 'where genuine flexibility remains before bureaucratic momentum strips it of any real influence on decision making.'" A SEQRA should have begun with the question: Do we need a new stadium? That question was never considered, nor was it really considered 'where' as it was clear where the owners wanted it. The Environmental Assessment ignores the most critical issue facing our region, state and the globe - climate change. We are told we can't even do a LEED certification process because it would cost too much -- because we did not start when it could have made a difference. Again, our region ignores the entire rationale for the State Environmental Quality Review. We are poorer for this lack of serious consideration of the issues, including missed opportunities, that should be addressed to accompany the investment of public dollars.

FEEDBACK FROM:

Christine Sheppard  
431 Savage Farm Dr.  
Ithaca, New York 14850

MESSAGE:

The construction of the new Buffalo Bills stadium presents an excellent opportunity to incorporate bird-friendly materials into a world class facility and make the Bills a leader in bird conservation. American Bird Conservancy would like to see the Bills follow the example set by the Milwaukee Bucks when they built Fiserv Forum, another beautiful building designed by Populous, and indeed go even further to ensure that 100% of the façade of Bills Stadium is bird friendly. Fortunately, many bird-friendly materials are now available that reduce collisions while remaining aesthetically pleasing and increasing sustainability. Up to one billion birds die following collisions with glass in the U.S. each year and American Bird Conservancy is hopeful that the Bills will not add a single bird to that staggering total.

FEEDBACK FROM:

Charles Banas  
176 College Street  
Buffalo, NY 14201

MESSAGE:

You can tell a lot about a region's values and the quality of its leadership by where and how its civic buildings are constructed. These days, this applies perhaps most particularly to professional sports stadiums. As mounds of evidence demonstrate, the only way a stadium can generate meaningful and sustained spinoff economic activity is by locating it downtown or in a similarly connected urban environment. An isolated, suburban, automobile-oriented site induces essentially zero attendant economic or cultural benefits.

If we indeed desire negligible return on a massive public investment, then the current location in Orchard Park is the perfect choice.

In comparison, a downtown or downtown-adjacent location is the best choice for an array of well-established reasons. All of the region's major highways converge there. Downtown is the hub for all regional transit—buses and light rail—and all planned connections to U.B North Campus, Niagara Falls, as well as inter-regional transportation like Amtrak and the metro line to the airport. There's more than enough space—the destructive "urban renewal" schemes of the past have cleared-out vast swaths of land in and near downtown, creating fallow wastelands for decades, but perfect for the rare project of this scope.

A new city-center stadium complex would be walkable to existing attractions and amenities, including Canalside and the Outer Harbor, Harborcenter and KeyBank Center, and downtown restaurants, bars, hotels, stores, and other businesses. As seen in other cities, this would create a mutually beneficial cycle of new investment and vitality, stabilizing and strengthening the admittedly fragile revival already taking place downtown, and extending the stadium's impact well beyond the mere handful of football games and other events that annually take place there. It would add real value to both the city and region. It would signal to the nation that the Buffalo area truly has its act together and is moving in a decisively positive direction.

A downtown stadium is the right thing to do for all the right reasons—economic, cultural, social. This project represents a perfect chance to act as a catalyst for our area's continued revival. Instead, despite some recent progress, it will be a sign—whether or not rightly deserved—of Buffalo's continued amateur status as a city and region, and be remembered by future generations as yet another opportunity squandered by mediocre, small-minded leadership.



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**BUFFALO BILLS NEW STADIUM**

**SEQR PUBLIC HEARING**

**10-27-2022**

**6:00 P.M.**

**ORCHARD PARK COMMUNITY CENTER**

**MEETING TEAM:**

**BILL GEARY**, Commissioner,  
Erie County Department of Public Works

**KIM NASON, ESQ.**,  
Phillips Lytle

**ADAM WALTERS, ESQ.**,  
Phillips Lytle

**RICH STANTON, ESQ.**,  
Erie County Department of Law

**MARK ROUNTREE**, Principal Planner,  
Erie County Department of Environment  
and Planning

Reported by: Rebecca L. DiBello, RPR, CSR(NYS)

**DEPAOLO CROSBY REPORTING SERVICES, INC.**

135 Delaware Avenue, Suite 301, Buffalo, New York 14202  
716-853-5544

S P E A K E R S

		PAGE
1		
2		
3	1. Andrew LNU	18
4	2. Ryan Brown	22
5	3. Richard Whipple	24
6	4. William Tyrell	28
7	5. Legislator John Mills	30
8	6. Don Lorenz	33
9	7. Eric Matwijow	37
10	8. Richard Lester	40
11	9. Augustine Carducci	42
12	10. Unknown speaker	44
13	11. Stan Gasiewicz	46
14	12. John LNU	49
15		
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
21		
22		
23		

**DEPAOLO CROSBY REPORTING SERVICES, INC.**

135 Delaware Avenue, Suite 301, Buffalo, New York 14202  
716-853-5544

1                   MR. GEARY: It's a little after 6:00, a  
2                   few minutes late, so I appreciate everybody  
3                   being patient.

4                   I'll start the meeting off. First, the  
5                   County Executive had a couple of words, County  
6                   Executive Mark Poloncarz.

7                   COUNTY EXECUTIVE POLONCARZ: Thank you,  
8                   Commissioner.

9                   First off, I appreciate everyone coming  
10                  here tonight as we have this very important  
11                  public hearing in regards to the SEQR analysis  
12                  that was done for the construction of the New  
13                  Bills Stadium in Orchard Park.

14                  I want to note we're joined by Karen  
15                  Gambino of Deaf Access Services who will be  
16                  providing American Sign Language to those that  
17                  need it in the audience.

18                  We are also joined by the supervisor of  
19                  the Town of Orchard Park, Gene Majchrzak. I  
20                  want to thank the supervisor for being here as  
21                  well as John Mills, the legislator from Erie  
22                  County Legislature who represents the Town of  
23                  Orchard Park.

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1           This is a process that's been going on  
2           for quite some time. I think many of you may  
3           have actually attended the first public hearing  
4           that was held at the Bills Fieldhouse a couple  
5           of months ago and this is a continuation of  
6           that process.

7           And so without any further discussion  
8           from me, I'm going to turn it over to the  
9           experts who have been working on this process  
10          for a few months now and I want to turn it over  
11          to our Commissioner of Public Works, Bill  
12          Geary. So Commissioner Gary, the floor is  
13          yours.

14          MR. GEARY: Thanks, boss. As the County  
15          Executive said, my name Bill Geary. Pleasure  
16          to be here tonight with everybody. Seated at  
17          the table to my right I have Kim Nason from  
18          Phillips Lyte, Adam Walters from Phillips  
19          Lytle. They're on the Erie County team helping  
20          us through the SEQR process.

21          Rich Stanton from our law department  
22          from the Erie County Attorney's Office as well  
23          as Mark Rountree from the Department of

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1 Environment and Planning.

2 There are some other notable people we'd  
3 like to recognize in the audience tonight. We  
4 have Populous here tonight, Kelly Kerns, Scott  
5 Radecic, thank you for being here and also WSP  
6 is here also from the design group, so thank  
7 you.

8 The purpose of this meeting, obviously  
9 SEQR is a process. The intent of the SEQR  
10 process is for us to make an informed decision  
11 on the impacts of the proposed environmental  
12 impacts of the proposed action.

13 As you'll hear in a few minutes, the  
14 proposed actions we have been evaluating  
15 include transferring of landownership,  
16 providing public funding and issuing permits to  
17 allow the construction and operation of a new  
18 approximately 60,000 seat NFL stadium for the  
19 Buffalo Bills. It will be right across the  
20 street from the current stadium on the west  
21 side of Abbott Road.

22 As you're here tonight you'll see  
23 documentation that's currently available for

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1 review of the project on our website. A great  
2 deal of work and analyses have been performed  
3 by a team of experts over the last several  
4 months.

5 As a result of this work, significant  
6 documentation has been made available for  
7 public review. Reports and more information  
8 are available on the project's website at  
9 BuffaloBillsSEQR.com and we'll go back to that,  
10 too, for anybody that wants to after this  
11 meeting submit anything. BuffaloBillsSEQR.com  
12 is the place to put input for your questions to  
13 be answered.

14 The critical part of the SEQR process is  
15 getting input from the public and interested  
16 involved agencies along the way. We look  
17 forward to receiving your input now that all  
18 the studies and reports are available. Tonight  
19 is a public hearing which is intended to  
20 describe the scope of the SEQR, review the  
21 process that's been completed to date and  
22 summarize the information available for public  
23 review and review public comments.

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1           First I'd like to introduce Adam Walters  
2           and Kim Nason from Phillips Lytle to walk us  
3           through an update of where we are in the SEQR  
4           process in a little more detailed aspect of it.  
5           Then we'll open up the mic and ask for public  
6           comments.

7           More details on that later, but we'll  
8           ask that everyone keep their verbal comments to  
9           three minutes so that everyone can be heard on  
10          a timely basis. Again, this is only for public  
11          comments. There won't be any answers.

12          Your answers will be posted  
13          November 23rd on the website and we'll also --  
14          this is strictly about the SEQR process.  
15          Unfortunately, we can't take any questions as  
16          to season ticket prices or anything else that  
17          might be happening. We don't have those  
18          details.

19          But for those watching online, you can  
20          submit the comments via the website. Submit  
21          comments any time up until November 2nd and,  
22          again, that's at BuffaloBillsSEQR.com.

23          At this time, Kim.

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1 MS. NASON: Thanks, Bill. First, I just  
2 kind of want to set the stage, give a little  
3 background context here. I know many of you  
4 were at the scoping meeting, but I'll summarize  
5 it once again.

6 So what is SEQR? Why are we here? Why  
7 are we going through this process? SEQR stands  
8 for the State Environmental Quality Review Act  
9 and it requires governmental agencies to  
10 evaluate potential environmental impacts of a  
11 project before they can make any decisions  
12 relative to undertaking a project, funding a  
13 project or approving a project.

14 So that's what kind of kicks it off here  
15 and for purposes of SEQR the project that we're  
16 talking about is the construction of the New  
17 Stadium, as Bill said, west of Abbott Road  
18 across the street from the existing stadium and  
19 it also includes demolition of the existing  
20 stadium.

21 By now I think you've all had a chance  
22 to see the renderings that were released by the  
23 team today and which we have here with us

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1           today. There are a number of governmental and  
2           agency decisions that are involved in this  
3           process and in this project.

4                        As Bill mentioned, the action for  
5           purposes of SEQOR that kind of triggers this  
6           whole process is funding, funding and  
7           permitting that's going to be performed by Erie  
8           County. In addition, the project involves the  
9           transfer of property, about 242 acres that's  
10          currently owned by the County to the Erie  
11          County Stadium Corporation which is the state  
12          agency which will then be leased to the team to  
13          facilitate the project.

14                       So the stadium that we have all seen  
15          this beautiful rendering of, what are we  
16          talking about in terms of details? It's  
17          approximately 60,000 seats, so a reduced  
18          seating capacity from the existing stadium.  
19          It's about 1,350,000 square feet overall. It  
20          will have a smaller footprint than the existing  
21          stadium, but will be a taller structure.

22                       There will be more square footage per  
23          person in the stadium which will provide more

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1 space to move around the stadium and increase  
2 level of comfort for the fans that are  
3 attending the games.

4 The targeted opening date for the  
5 stadium is the 2026 season. It's important as  
6 we talk through this SEQR process to remember  
7 that we're looking at the existing stadium as a  
8 baseline here. We're not looking at  
9 constructing an entirely new stadium in a new  
10 location. We're comparing potential new  
11 impacts of this stadium construction as  
12 compared to impacts that exist from the current  
13 stadium today. That's a really key point to  
14 remember as we go through this process.

15 So you know, as Bill mentioned, tonight  
16 we're going to give an overview of the  
17 comprehensive environmental review process that  
18 has been done this far and then update  
19 everybody as to where we are in that process  
20 and what you can expect to come next.

21 Then we're looking forward to receiving  
22 all of your comments. We encourage everyone if  
23 you haven't had a chance already to take a look

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1 at that website that Bill mentioned, take a  
2 look at the documentation. There is a lot of  
3 information on there.

4 But we look forward to receiving  
5 comments both tonight and then up until  
6 November 2nd. Please, we encourage you to  
7 submit your comments.

8 So before I turn it over to Adam and we  
9 talk about the significant work that's been  
10 done, we mentioned that last Public Scoping  
11 Meeting that we had. So just to refresh  
12 everybody's memory or to inform those who don't  
13 know yet, back when this process began,  
14 July 1st we circulated what's called lead  
15 agency packages.

16 The county circulated detailed packages  
17 to kick off the process to 40 different  
18 interested and involved agencies. And then we  
19 did conduct a Public Scoping Meeting at the  
20 stadium and that was on July 14th.

21 At that meeting we gave a presentation  
22 kind of similar to this on the project details  
23 and then received comments from the public.

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1 We've got comments in writing as well and those  
2 comments were on the scope of the review.

3 Comments from you all saying you guys  
4 should look at this, you should evaluate this  
5 certain element, and all of those comments were  
6 compiled and addressed in the scope of the  
7 analysis that we completed and we'll talk a  
8 little bit more about that.

9 I'll turn it over to Adam to get into a  
10 summary of what has been done since we held  
11 that meeting.

12 MR. WALTERS: Good evening, everyone.  
13 As Bill said, my name is Adam Walters. I'm an  
14 attorney at Phillips Lytle with Kim. We do a  
15 lot of environmental impact reviews and we're  
16 helping lead the county through this process.

17 So, over the last several months, really  
18 since the beginning of June, a whole team of  
19 consultants have been preparing analyses of all  
20 potential environmental impacts that may be  
21 associated with the construction and operation  
22 of a new stadium.

23 The analysis has been summarized and

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1 compiled into a document, what we  
2 affectionately call the Technical Addendum. It  
3 was posted to the BuffaloBillsSEQR.com website  
4 last week along with all of the supporting  
5 reports.

6 We also did an Executive Summary because  
7 we know some people like to just skim to the  
8 details. It's all there for you. On that  
9 website you will find the Executive Summary,  
10 the Technical Addendum which is a comprehensive  
11 description of the project as well as an  
12 analysis of potential impacts of every  
13 potential environmental media starting with  
14 land and going through community -- it ends  
15 with community impact, so it's community  
16 character.

17 There are many, many, many expert  
18 reports and I'll run through those in a second.  
19 You will also find a draft of Parts 2 and 3 of  
20 the Environmental Assessment Form. That's a  
21 document that the county is required to prepare  
22 by law that discloses answers to potential  
23 environmental impacts.

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1           We also put together summaries of all  
2           the comments that were received at the Public  
3           Scoping Meeting back in June and added those  
4           responses to each comment to the website so  
5           everybody can see in a very transparent fashion  
6           how issues that were raised have been  
7           addressed.

8           That same rule applies for tonight.  
9           Anybody who stands up and makes comments, we  
10          have a court reporter who will transcribe your  
11          comments. The Team will then compile the  
12          comments and draft responses working with the  
13          county, the Bills and all of the environmental  
14          consultants who have been involved.

15          In terms of reports that are on that  
16          website, we have an Alternatives Analysis that  
17          kind of discusses the alternatives that were  
18          evaluated and why Orchard Park was selected as  
19          the location for the stadium.

20          There is a Lighting Design Narrative.  
21          There is Geotechnical Engineering Assessment  
22          Report. There is an Ecological Review of the  
23          site of the New Stadium. There's a Phase One

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1 Environmental Site Assessment. There is  
2 Preliminary Stormwater Management Plan.  
3 There's a Phase One Archeological Investigation  
4 and Progress Report. There are Water and  
5 Sanitary Sewer Capacity Reports. There is an  
6 Electrical Demand Report.

7 There is an Environmental Sound Study.  
8 There is a Noise Impact Study, two different  
9 reports. There's a Traffic Management Plan.  
10 There is a Traffic Assessment. There's a  
11 Demolition Mitigation Plan. There's a Viewshed  
12 Analysis and we also included before and after  
13 visualizations from various areas around the  
14 stadium so you can get a sense of how the New  
15 Stadium, which is a little taller than the old  
16 stadium, will look and whether you'll be able  
17 to see it from certain areas. So all of that  
18 is posted on the website.

19 One of the interesting things we found  
20 out as we went through this process was that  
21 there has always been a Traffic Management Plan  
22 for game day. However, it's never been written  
23 down. It's always been kind of a PowerPoint

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1 slide with lots of notes and every year before  
2 the season starts everybody gets together, all  
3 the agencies that regulate traffic and safety,  
4 and talk about the year coming up.

5 So one of the things we did as part of  
6 this Environmental Review Process was reduce  
7 the Traffic Management Plan for game day to a  
8 written plan with the idea being that when  
9 there's a New Stadium it will be very easy to  
10 update that very regularly both before and  
11 after the season, so it becomes kind a tool, if  
12 you will, to help improve traffic management on  
13 game day. And that again is on the website.

14 The next steps after tonight obviously  
15 will be to receive public comments. Public  
16 comments can be submitted up until  
17 November 2nd, so you have a little bit of time.  
18 You can submit comments through the website and  
19 I know this meeting will be streamed, so if  
20 there are folks out there watching, by all  
21 means please review the documents and submit  
22 any comments, anything you think that needs to  
23 be addressed as part of the Final Environmental

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1 Review Process.

2 Every comment we receive, whether it be  
3 here tonight or through the website, will be  
4 summarized and responses will be drafted and  
5 those will be included in a Final Technical  
6 Addendum which will be both posted to the  
7 website and submitted to the Erie County  
8 Legislature for final review.

9 I think I have covered all the majors.  
10 Bill mentioned that we hope to post that around  
11 November 23rd. The Team will be working  
12 throughout November to pull together the  
13 information, respond to all the comments and to  
14 the extent the comments trigger any additional  
15 work or analysis, all of that will be reflected  
16 in the updated Technical Addendum so everything  
17 gets captured.

18 So with that I'm going to hand it back  
19 to Bill.

20 MR. GEARY: Thank you, Kim and Adam.

21 So now we're up to the public comment  
22 period. What we do in this period is anybody  
23 we've asked to sign in and put their name on

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1 the list will be able to come up. We limit it  
2 to three minutes. We'll keep to that, too. We  
3 have a clock and we also ask that no repeat  
4 comments be made, but every comment will be  
5 documented and there will be an answer and this  
6 is just a listening session, so you won't have  
7 an answer to your comment tonight, but it will  
8 be addressed in the reports.

9 ANDREW LNU: My name is Andrew. I used  
10 to be a Bills fan. Dare I say a rabid fan. I  
11 even went to the extent one weekend to drive  
12 from Fort Hood, Texas Thursday night, Friday  
13 and Saturday visit family, Sunday go to a Bills  
14 game. I actually had to go to the will call  
15 window to get the tickets.

16 Made it to the game. Watched the game.  
17 Started driving home back to Fort Hood when I  
18 could. Come back to Fort Hood. Season ticket  
19 holder for a year. Great. Like I said, dare I  
20 say a rabid fan.

21 Then about eight, nine years ago the  
22 Buffalo Bills disrespected the United States  
23 Armed Forces. I am retired now. I was retired

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1 in 2013, so luckily I had my freedom of speech  
2 again and I am happy to use it. 2008, 2009 the  
3 NFL started their kneeling on the anthem,  
4 disrespecting the military, disrespecting the  
5 whole United States.

6 I was trying to stay a Bills fan. I'm  
7 still a Bills fan. Didn't care what other  
8 teams did. Not my business. When the Bills  
9 disrespected the entire armed forces, that was  
10 the last day I watched a game. I cancelled  
11 Verizon. Don't go to Dunn Tire. Don't go to  
12 McDonalds. I know it doesn't show.

13 Prior to my retirement in 2000 -- I want  
14 to say 2006/2007 season -- can everybody hear  
15 me okay? All right. I'm not a fan of  
16 microphones.

17 I think it was end of 2006 or end of  
18 2007 season I bought a Bills flag. Brought it  
19 to the team. Most of the time signed it to  
20 include Dick Jauron, Trent Edwards. Marv Levy  
21 is on the flag. Took it to Afghanistan with  
22 the Bills Backers Club. Took some pictures in  
23 front of our dining facility because I couldn't

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1 take pictures outside of our installation.  
2 Didn't want to give away our location.

3 Sent it to the Bills while I was  
4 overseas. I was honored as could be. I get  
5 back. I go to a home game. There's our  
6 pictures on the Jumbotron. I couldn't be  
7 prouder.

8 The last day I flew the Bills flag was  
9 the day that the Bills knelt for the anthem.  
10 Haven't watched a game since.

11 I've reached out to the Bills on  
12 numerous occasions to try to offer this flag,  
13 to try to present it to the NFL, to the Bills,  
14 my team, my team, how valuable they are to the  
15 Armed Forces of the United States.

16 I got to see one game while I was in  
17 Afghanistan. Didn't care about Al Qaeda that  
18 night. Didn't care about any mortar rounds  
19 coming in. I was closer to home. I was a  
20 little bit closer to home. They bring us  
21 closer to home, especially for those that are  
22 serving.

23 I reached out to the Bills on numerous

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1 occasions to offer this flag that I hand  
2 carried to Afghanistan and back. No response.

3 My main argument is just this: Why --  
4 now I'm retired. Why should even a portion of  
5 my retirement for the injuries I sustained  
6 overseas, for the time I lost with my son, for  
7 the relationships that failed because I was  
8 overseas, why should a portion of my retirement  
9 go to pay for a new stadium for the  
10 organization that I have no clue whether they  
11 will disrespect me, disrespect the armed  
12 forces, disrespect the nation on a weekly  
13 basis.

14 I have not watched a game again since  
15 the Bills knelt because that's just a slap in  
16 the face that I cannot turn the other cheek. I  
17 pray I didn't go over the three minutes. Thank  
18 you for your time. God bless.

19 MR. GEARY: Thank you and thank you for  
20 your service, sir.

21 MR. WALTERS: Just sign up so we can  
22 make sure we get your name and address.

23 ANDREW: I will do that on my way out.

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1                   MR. WALTERS:  Actually, I'll pass you a  
2                   pad.

3                   MR. ROUNTREE:  Next up we have a Ryan  
4                   Brown.  Is there a Ryan Brown?

5                   MR. BROWN:  Hi.  My name is Ryan Brown.  
6                   I live in Amherst.  And I'm glad to see in the  
7                   report a plan for game day public transit.  
8                   That's great.

9                   I am concerned about how that's going to  
10                  be used, where that's going to terminate, how  
11                  many trips are going to be available, what  
12                  times those are going to be to allow people to  
13                  be able to get the game with enough time, but  
14                  specifically I'm concerned about the amount of  
15                  New York State money that's going towards this  
16                  stadium.

17                  With the combination of the state and  
18                  county money, for every Erie County resident I  
19                  calculated it's about \$300 per Erie County  
20                  resident and that's not just voting age.  
21                  That's not limited to just people who do pay  
22                  taxes, but what that comes out to is that  
23                  taxpayers like I already have to shell out for

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1 the stadium. If I want to watch a game I have  
2 to go buy tickets.

3 Obviously having public transport to the  
4 stadium is nice, but I would expect to see more  
5 from this deal for the individual New York  
6 State residents that are footing a large  
7 portion of this stadium bill.

8 And from an environmental and land use  
9 perspective, I would be really curious why the  
10 site was selected not to just be on the same  
11 site, but I know this isn't an answering  
12 session.

13 That's all my comments and mostly it's  
14 just the amount that the individual taxpayer  
15 ends up paying for this stadium, for a stadium  
16 that's going to be used for at most 20 games a  
17 season and that's it. We have no away games,  
18 doubtful, and for a stadium that is going to be  
19 mainly used for a private team that doesn't  
20 have public ownership stake and all.

21 That is all. Thank you for your time.

22 MR. WALTERS: Thank you, Mr. Brown.

23 MR. ROUNTREE: Richard Whipple. Is

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1           there a Richard Whipple?

2           MR. WHIPPLE: Hi there. Rich Whipple,  
3 Amherst, New York. Really I've been a season  
4 ticket holder for a very long time. Die hard  
5 Bills fan for 46 years. Fellow urban planner.  
6 I had a nice discussion with Scott walking in  
7 the door. I certainly appreciate Scott's  
8 relationship with Bills ownership over the  
9 years. We're really pleased to have you still  
10 representing and coming back to Western New  
11 York.

12           Being an urban planner I have certainly  
13 analyzed sports facilities as part of my career  
14 for 25 years and have worked on your side of  
15 the table with the SEQR process and CEQA in  
16 California, so I really have done a lot of work  
17 on these projects, really appreciate the work  
18 that the county has done with Mark's leadership  
19 and then Ron from PSE, he's been able to  
20 explain an awful lot to the fans and certainly  
21 appreciate PSE's representation.

22           With regard to the building and the  
23 renderings that came out today, they're

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1           spectacular. I think on social media one of  
2           the comments was from one of the environmental  
3           groups about the shining part of the facade  
4           there.

5                    I know you can't answer questions, but  
6           they're bringing up migratory birds and  
7           wondering if that was plate glass and I thought  
8           it was like -- the skin on it was some sort of  
9           perforated material, so I think one of the  
10          responses you need to put in there was about  
11          migratory birds.

12                   Now, I worked for the Army Corps of  
13          Engineers and I have a lot of projects in the  
14          Buffalo Outer Harbor and the water, so I deal  
15          with migratory birds and how they fly. And so  
16          their concern was the sheen that you see there,  
17          and I thought it was perforated material and it  
18          was for wind confusion, and if that was plate  
19          glass that would be an awful lot of money on  
20          that.

21                   But in terms of the structure, everyone  
22          should know -- all fans should know our stadium  
23          that we are in right now, back in 1973 -- half

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1 of it is subgrade. Half of it is underground.  
2 If you sit in the lower bowl you're going down,  
3 so this structure is going to be -- is going to  
4 look very tall. Of course it is. Because the  
5 other one is shorter. Half of it is  
6 underground.

7 So you have to understand the massing  
8 that Populous had to work with here in order to  
9 built this. It's going to be at grade  
10 basically, so it's a taller facility. I really  
11 appreciate the little historical reference with  
12 regard to the vertical panes on there;  
13 certainly a nod to Kleinhan's Music Hall a  
14 little bit and Memorial Auditorium and War  
15 Memorial Stadium. I think with the vertical  
16 pillars there there's some representation there  
17 that people are really going to appreciate, so  
18 from an urban planning and design perspective,  
19 that's really respected and appreciate the  
20 design there.

21 I know demolition of the existing  
22 stadium is part of the process as well. The  
23 only thing I couldn't glean out of the traffic

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1 and parking study technical documents was I  
2 think the stadium is going to be a parking lot  
3 after it's demo'd and I wasn't sure if it was  
4 going to be a net reduction of parking or not.

5 I think the fans would probably want to  
6 know that. With the lower attendance there  
7 would seem to be a lot more parking spaces  
8 available and if you're going to make the  
9 stadium out of a parking lot anyway there  
10 should be maybe a net increase in parking  
11 spaces.

12 The only other item, and I'll leave with  
13 this, is a few stadiums have done this when  
14 they demolished their older ones. Place GPS  
15 coordinates for midfield of the existing  
16 stadium in that parking lot and the end zones.

17 Fans will appreciate that because  
18 there's been a lot of history at that stadium  
19 and fans want to know where the old stadium  
20 was, so place those GPS markers. They did it  
21 for Shea Stadium in New York. They put gold  
22 monuments in the parking lot. Just put them in  
23 there. People will go back there. Maybe a car

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1 will be parked over it, but so what? Right?  
2 People will appreciate that.

3 But anyway, I appreciate the SEQR  
4 requirements here tonight. I appreciate the  
5 coordination that PSE has done with the county  
6 and Populous. Scott, thanks so much for coming  
7 back again and being a part of Western New  
8 York. Thank you so much.

9 MR. ROUNTREE: William Tyrell?

10 MR. TYRELL: Hi everybody. I'm lucky to  
11 be a Bills fan. My dad when I was 5 years old  
12 took me to the Old Rock Pile. That was my  
13 first Bills game. I have either seen, heard or  
14 been to every Bills game, okay?

15 I'm not looking for a plaque. What my  
16 concern tonight is is I have one of the oldest  
17 houses in the area and that house is going to  
18 be looking directly across the street now at  
19 the stadium. And that's not the concern.

20 The rendering is absolutely beautiful.  
21 What the Pegulas have done and what your  
22 committee has done and everybody has made  
23 Buffalo a place to look at now, especially with

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1 the success of Josh Allen and the current Bills  
2 team. Let's hope that that continues to go on.

3 My concern being the oldest house is  
4 that we have a grandfathered setback, so if  
5 sidewalks go in, okay, you know, I'm going to  
6 lose a good portion of my front lawn.

7 The second part of that is I spent  
8 \$11,000 on a driveway, concrete, so I'm worried  
9 about that because of the sewers would have to  
10 obviously be bigger than what they are now and  
11 some of the ditches -- there's a ditch on one  
12 side of me and a ditch on the other side that  
13 would have to be filled in.

14 The only other concern I have is usually  
15 a homeowner -- I'm a retired contractor.  
16 Usually a homeowner is responsible for their  
17 water line coming from the street to the house  
18 and inside the house, okay?

19 Well, my house was built in 1919 and if  
20 you increase the water pressure in the area is  
21 there a study? Is there going to be anybody  
22 coming out looking at that and are the older  
23 residents I suppose going to get any kind of

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1 concession? You know, that's -- I'm retired  
2 now and on a fixed income and I have got to  
3 look at \$10,000, \$12,000 to replace a water  
4 line and ruin all my garden beds in my  
5 driveway, I'm just not real happy about that.

6 But that's about all I have to say, so  
7 that will leave a couple more minutes for  
8 somebody else. Go Bills. Great job. And I  
9 love being a Buffalo Bills fan.

10 MR. WALTERS: Thank you, Mr. Tyrell.

11 MR. ROUNTREE: We have Mike Cudzow?  
12 Legislator John Mills?

13 LEGISLATOR MILLS: Good evening and  
14 thanks for all you're doing, the committee.

15 One of the things I keep preaching to my  
16 constituents and people I run into here and  
17 elsewhere in the country is the impact of this  
18 project. This is probably the largest dollar  
19 project, impact project probably you've seen  
20 here in 100 years, maybe more.

21 I'm glad the drawings came out because  
22 people kept asking me what this thing would  
23 look like and I was fortunate to be around when

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1 the old stadium was built, the one we're  
2 playing in now. I think it's about 50 feet  
3 into the ground and I was with the U.S. Gypsum  
4 Company at the time, so this is going to be 30  
5 feet I believe higher than the existing  
6 facility.

7 So it's good to get this back out to the  
8 public. I just don't have the sense that the  
9 public really understands the scope and the  
10 impact of this particular project on our area.  
11 Not just Erie County, but on Upstate New York.

12 And I would like to see the word get out  
13 on that more aggressively, but having said that  
14 I'm going to go back to the public safety issue  
15 here which again are sidewalks. I know some  
16 people say, well, sidewalks are a pain in the  
17 neck because you have to clear them and things  
18 like that, but public safety is so important.

19 I think the Bills are supporting that  
20 because they want their attendees to be safe  
21 and prevent fatalities over the years, so  
22 having said that, I'm glad you put together a  
23 traffic plan, but I'd like you to be able to

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1 expand that to include other events that are  
2 going to take place at that stadium, including  
3 concerts and other events in general, and I  
4 think that will just enhance what we're trying  
5 to do here now because once this facility is  
6 built it's going to be very tough to change  
7 what is going on at the facility, so we really  
8 have to be right upfront and make this thing  
9 work the first time around.

10 We get one bite at the apple for the  
11 next 30 years. But that public safety is so  
12 important for the pedestrians that are going to  
13 come to this stadium. And I think the other  
14 thing, and it may be on the website, but how  
15 are we going to handle the 10,000 workers that  
16 we anticipate coming to this site over the next  
17 four years to build that stadium, especially  
18 when we're back in season for the next few  
19 years? And teams coming in and playing, how  
20 are we going to handle it? Where are these  
21 people going to be staying and what is going to  
22 be the traffic pattern of the construction  
23 workers and construction machinery?

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1           I think that's very important. I have  
2           talked to the Chamber of Commerce and the  
3           supervisor in Orchard Park and we want to  
4           develop some type of -- Town of Hamburg, too.  
5           Develop some kind of business surrounding the  
6           state and make it a little more unique than  
7           what we're doing now. So thank you.

8           MR. WALTERS: Thank you, Legislator.

9           MR. ROUNTREE: Don Lorenz.

10          MR. LORENZ: I'm the Executive Director  
11          for the Orchard Park Chamber of Commerce. Jack  
12          mentioned that we have been talking back and  
13          forth. We have some concerns. The 600 and  
14          some businesses that we represent, we haven't  
15          had an opportunity at all to speak to anybody  
16          with the Bills organization, with the county,  
17          with the state or anyone else at this point to  
18          at least feel -- get a feel for what is going  
19          to be happening.

20          We've had a stadium for 50 years and  
21          back in 1997, 1998 it was determined that we're  
22          going to get zero income from that stadium and  
23          everything was going to the NFL, to the Bills,

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1           so from that point we lost over a million and a  
2           half dollars a year not getting any income from  
3           that for parking, for the concessions, for  
4           everything else.

5                         Since the businesses pay a lion's share  
6           of taxes, since most of this is being built by  
7           taxpayer dollars at this point, as I'm  
8           representing our businesses we don't have a  
9           hotel in our community. Shame on us, but  
10          that's something we have to work towards.

11                        As John was saying, where are these  
12          people going to stay? So we're going to have  
13          thousands of people coming here and our town  
14          does not benefit from it. I was interviewed a  
15          couple of weeks ago when Pittsburgh was here.  
16          Boy, you must be really excited about all the  
17          income you're going to be making while  
18          Pittsburgh is here because they are going to be  
19          coming in in droves.

20                        I said Hamburg, East Aurora, West  
21          Seneca, downtown will do well. We're going to  
22          have people driving by, stopping at the gas  
23          station, maybe picking up something on the way

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1 in and then we won't see them for the rest of  
2 the time.

3 So our stores, our boutiques, our  
4 restaurants do not get any of the economic gain  
5 from having a stadium in our backyard. It has  
6 never been maintained. That area has never  
7 been maintained. We've had blue tarps on some  
8 of the restaurants for many years. That's all  
9 people see when they come into Orchard Park.  
10 That's the image of Orchard Park.

11 Is that what we want to continue for the  
12 next 30 years or do we want people to see the  
13 beautiful village and town of Orchard Park, the  
14 parks that we have, the tobogganing, all the  
15 things we have to offer.

16 That's some of the things I'm looking at  
17 and I guess the other concern that I have heard  
18 from a number of people, why has it been that  
19 the Pegulas or the Buffalo Bills organization  
20 is able to make a decision when we pay the  
21 lion's share that it can only be used for  
22 summer and for the football games, so they get  
23 to have, you know, "they get to play in the

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1 elements".

2 I've been a musician my whole life. I  
3 would love to be able to go to concerts there  
4 on a regular basis. I would love to see  
5 different things. Wrestle Mania is coming.

6 We don't have a convention center in  
7 Buffalo that can house these large conventions.  
8 We have a facility that would house that and we  
9 can't use it because it's not going to be  
10 covered. I just don't understand why they have  
11 the option to be able to say, even though we're  
12 paying whatever it is, the dollar amount that  
13 we're paying compared to the NFL and the  
14 Buffalo Bills, why can they make that decision?

15 Why can't it be retractable so that we  
16 can get twelve months out of the year? We'd  
17 like to build a hotel that would become a  
18 twelve month destination. Have a museum, have  
19 a water park, but it's kind of foolish if we  
20 can't maintain getting a huge structure like  
21 that that could be used twelve months out of  
22 the year. Thank you.

23 MR. WALTERS: Thank you, Mr. Lorenz.

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1 MR. ROUNTREE: Eric Matwijow?

2 MR. MATWIJOW: My main concern obviously  
3 is the support building. Reading the  
4 documents, I didn't do all 3000 pages, but I  
5 see the building. The support building really  
6 hasn't been decided if it's going to be  
7 one story, two stories, 75,000 square feet or  
8 up to 150,000 square feet.

9 My concern is also it's kind of  
10 confusing. Some of the pictures that I see in  
11 there, the building will be right near my  
12 property line and it also shows it's near the  
13 bath house which is about 220 feet away from my  
14 property line and as the snow goes over the  
15 building 220 feet, yeah, the snow can drop  
16 down, my property won't be effected whatsoever  
17 if it is moved back to that part.

18 Also, I noticed on page 17 a flaw -- or  
19 Section 17 which is a traffic report, page 23,  
20 and I think the consultant was WSP put this on.  
21 It states Hamburg lots parks 240 cars on  
22 roughly one acre of land, yet K&K's parking lot  
23 which is seven acres parks 650 cars. Seven

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1 times 240 is 1680 cars.

2 I would like to hire the consultant if I  
3 can get 240 cars on my property, my one acre of  
4 land. That's a flaw. That thing is -- a rule  
5 of thumb is 100 cars per acre.

6 Also I noticed it says during this --  
7 closing off of Big Tree Road going one way  
8 traffic empties out a half hour faster. Well,  
9 it added a half to Abbott Road because you  
10 cannot make a left-hand turn down Abbott making  
11 a left on Big Tree East. That I think should  
12 be fixed.

13 I noticed also there won't be any  
14 bridges going across due to the demand and the  
15 load of the people. I would recommend or  
16 suggest maybe two bridges and what happens,  
17 most of the people will leave for the first  
18 hour. After that put some gates up. Everybody  
19 that's left over that's lingering, go over the  
20 bridge, open up Abbott Road in front of the  
21 road block area an hour earlier to relieve the  
22 traffic because, as we know, there will be a  
23 couple more driveways and the bulk of the -- a

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1 couple more driveways on Abbott Road. This  
2 will maybe facilitate everybody leaving that  
3 way.

4 Also, at one time before the remodel  
5 there was a plaque that honored our service  
6 people. It was a big rock. It's not there  
7 anymore. Maybe that would help out that  
8 gentlemen. I don't know whatever happened to  
9 that rock.

10 So that's about it. I'm a 35-year  
11 season ticket holder and going to almost every  
12 game living next to the stadium and I'm glad we  
13 actually had one of the 32 football teams. I  
14 don't know if putting a hotel right next to the  
15 stadium will help be an economic driver.

16 I think if there's a hotel that should  
17 be in the Village of Orchard Park knowing that  
18 the RV lot, when there's people in the RV lot,  
19 they don't leave the lot.

20 Thank you very much for your time.

21 MR. ROUNTREE: That's everyone that  
22 signed up.

23 MR. WALTERS: If anybody else wants to

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1 speak it's not too late to sign the sheet and  
2 come on up.

3 MR. LESTER: Yes. I would like to say  
4 something. There needs to be involvement of  
5 the business development organization, I'm not  
6 sure of the acronym, from Erie County looking  
7 into the business aspect of this large project.

8 If you look at, for instance, the city  
9 of Los Angeles when they built a new stadium  
10 they had an economic plan that provided  
11 employment for people. And I realize this is a  
12 group of the rich and the powerful, but the  
13 reality is with the shutdown of -- likely  
14 shutdown of the McKinley Mall which is  
15 adjacent, jobs and employment for people in  
16 Erie County, given the enormous economic  
17 stagnation that this county has suffered in the  
18 last 30 years, needs to be taken into  
19 consideration and this means that there should  
20 be a business development plan around the  
21 stadium.

22 And I think it's up to Erie County, Erie  
23 County business development organization,

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1 through the County Executive and the County  
2 Legislature to come up with a plan. This would  
3 include zoning. It would include other things  
4 that need to be taken into consideration for  
5 proper economic development.

6 If you look before they put in new  
7 stadiums, whether that's Cleveland, Ohio or  
8 wherever you want to go, this has been an  
9 economic driver. It's important to a low  
10 income county such as Erie County.

11 I think that given the situation it's  
12 imperative that the plan and the county  
13 government come together with what is a longer  
14 term business plan given the importance of the  
15 Buffalo Bills for the entire county and for all  
16 the people.

17 I mean, this particular county that  
18 we're in is the highest income town in the  
19 standard metropolitan statistical area which  
20 encompasses Erie County. I think given the  
21 situation there is a societal interest in  
22 making sure that there is proper development  
23 and employment and other opportunities are

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1 available to a resident -- all residents of the  
2 county. Thank you.

3 MS. NASON: Can we just have your name,  
4 please.

5 MR. LESTER: My name is Richard Lester,  
6 L-E-S-T-E-R. I reside at 19 Woodthrush Trail  
7 in Orchard Park.

8 MR. WALTERS: Thank you, Mr. Lester.

9 MR. CARDUCCI: Hello. My name is  
10 Agostin Carducci and I'm the owner of La  
11 Galleria Events on Southwestern Boulevard and I  
12 was just talking to the gentlemen from Populous  
13 and apparently we're the closest business to  
14 the stadium and we -- just to let you know  
15 what's happened, my parents bought that land  
16 when I was 11 years old and I'm headed towards  
17 68 and we have been operating it for 52 years  
18 as a business and my daughters are next in line  
19 to carry it on.

20 And we survived COVID sixteen months.  
21 Banquet halls were the epicenter of businesses  
22 that needed to be closed, but we're a  
23 conservative lot and we prepared for difficult

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1 times so we're fine with that.

2 With the stadium, just to let you know  
3 what's happening with us, our main focus in  
4 banquets is weddings and we do a lot of outside  
5 weddings. There are gardens on both sides.  
6 It's three and a half acres.

7 So we've lost a lot of business even for  
8 next year with brides coming to us looking at  
9 the hall, finding it charming, lovely, well  
10 priced, but what about the noise? What about  
11 the construction? What about the dust? Am I  
12 going to have my wedding dress covered with,  
13 you know, construction dust?

14 So, it has impacted us. Of course,  
15 we're Bills fans and we're happy that it's  
16 there, but it is having a big economic effect  
17 on us and it will for the next four years. I  
18 saw that in the report, not reading it  
19 acidulously, but reading it they mentioned the  
20 motel across the street, which has to be Maple  
21 Court, a two-story building, is mentioned as  
22 far as in a 90 decibel area and we're not  
23 included at all and we're a lot closer and

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1 we're two stories, too, so we'll be greatly  
2 effected. Just to let you know.

3 Of course, we're so small and it's just  
4 a big project, but this is the impact it's  
5 having on us.

6 MR. WALTERS: Thank you.

7 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: I showed up a  
8 little late, so I might have missed this. I'm  
9 not sure. Did you talk about sidewalks on  
10 Abbott Road at all?

11 MR. WALTERS: There's a Traffic  
12 Management Plan, a traffic plan, a traffic  
13 analysis all covered in the report, so it's all  
14 in there, but if you have a comment on the  
15 sidewalks we'd love to hear it.

16 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: I live between  
17 Milestrip and Southwestern which is by far the  
18 busiest section of Abbott Road, by far, and two  
19 years ago they redid that road and tore out the  
20 sidewalks that were already there.

21 I had a perfect sidewalk there and they  
22 tore it out. Now I'm left with mud so I put  
23 stone down there so I don't have to get my mail

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1 in the mud.

2 During the games the road crew puts up  
3 cones on the one side for people to walk in the  
4 street. Most of them aren't walking in that  
5 area. And why would you put people on the  
6 street, for one? They're walking on the  
7 sidewalk in my area tearing up whatever is left  
8 of my front yard and I don't understand why  
9 you'd not put sidewalks there when you have  
10 Southwestern Boulevard that has all of the --  
11 there is dealerships and we have sidewalks  
12 there.

13 I see one person a year walking on the  
14 sidewalks. We get -- apart from coming from  
15 that direction up Abbott is where most people  
16 walk to the game by far. I'm sure that's in  
17 your report somewhere. I'm not sure, but you  
18 got eight side streets coming off Abbott Road,  
19 too, that people could be using that during --  
20 the regular time of the year and not during  
21 games.

22 You got at least eight, probably ten  
23 side streets coming off between Southwestern

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1 and Milestrip, side streets off Abbott. The  
2 families could be riding their bikes and stuff.  
3 Nobody walks anymore. I've been living here  
4 41 years so I have seen it all with the  
5 stadium.

6 I used to ride there when they were  
7 building it with my bike when I was a kid, so I  
8 have no problem with it coming, but let's do  
9 something about the sidewalks on Abbott.  
10 That's all my concern is.

11 MR. WALTERS: Can I get your name and  
12 address?

13 STAN GASIEWICZ: Hi. I filled out the  
14 top of the form. I came in a little late.  
15 I've been a Hamburg resident. My name is Stan  
16 Gasiewicz and I live at 4914 Big Tree Road.  
17 I've been a Hamburg resident for 39 years and I  
18 live in one of the seven homes that are between  
19 the two entrances to ECC South Campus on Big  
20 Tree and at the last meeting one of the  
21 neighbors had brought up an issue, but before I  
22 get into that I just want to mention I've been  
23 accommodating the crowds over the 39 years, so

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1 I've grown to work with the crowds whether it's  
2 crowds for a football game or a concert or  
3 whatever else they have going on.

4 I have no issue with that. There's  
5 always traffic on Big Tree Road waiting to get  
6 into one of the lots before they open. A lot  
7 of activity going on, so I don't have an issue  
8 with that.

9 I also don't have any problems with my  
10 utilities and I know that came up before, so  
11 I'd like to keep it that way so we don't have  
12 an issue with any of the utilities where you  
13 can't flush your toilets or whatever.

14 The bigger issue for the neighbors that  
15 was brought up by Bernie at the last meeting  
16 was the parking lot between those two entrances  
17 at ECC Campus is filled up always and it starts  
18 at 9:00, so you have people partying,  
19 tailgating for four hours and, of course, they  
20 have to use the bathroom.

21 So what they ended up doing on Bernie's  
22 property because he has a lot of evergreens is  
23 they would urinate all over his property, so he

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1 brought that up and in the time that I lived  
2 there there was always at least one Porta  
3 Potty. It's a small issue for the whole, but  
4 for the neighbors it would be great.

5 And I did put this in my comments after  
6 the July meeting that we ought to have more  
7 than one because they usually would at the end  
8 of the drive coming into the parking lot area  
9 they have one there and I'm a season ticket  
10 holder, too, so I go to the games and I can see  
11 what is going on and there's a line waiting.

12 Of course, the line is too big and  
13 people have to go, so they go anywhere. They  
14 go in any of the neighbor's property where you  
15 can hide, or not even hide. Some of them are  
16 so drunk they don't really care.

17 So what I suggested is if we're going to  
18 continue with the tailgating in that lot or any  
19 of the others that are close by because there  
20 is another one off to the left, that we at  
21 least place a Porta Potty at least at each  
22 corner so that that frees it up.

23 The issue I have with this year is I

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1           have gone to the games and I haven't seen any  
2           this year in that parking lot, so I'm thinking  
3           why are we going in the reverse direction? Is  
4           somebody paying attention to what you put in  
5           your comments or what?

6                        But that would help the neighbors and  
7           keep people in the lot if that's what we're  
8           going to continue with the tailgating. And I  
9           think it's great. I have lived in the  
10          neighborhood. I'm accustomed to it and I don't  
11          have an issue.

12                       I love going to the games. Now instead  
13          of walking ten, fifteen minutes I'll be walking  
14          five minutes to get to my seat, so it's a  
15          benefit and that's my comments and I did sign  
16          one of the sheets there.

17                       MR. WALTERS: Yes. We got you.

18                       MR. GEARY: No other comments? I'm  
19          sorry. One more.

20                       JOHN: Hi. My name is John. I  
21          guarantee you that that first line up there I'm  
22          going to make you regret that, I think. We  
23          look forward to your comments.

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1           We are making the mistake of a lifetime  
2           by putting the stadium out here in Orchard  
3           Park. I live a mile away. I live at 219 and  
4           20, okay. A mile away. I have no -- I'm not  
5           saying anything about traffic because traffic  
6           for the game stops at my street and I can get  
7           out and go the other way, anywhere I want to  
8           go.

9           The Erie County Fair is the problem  
10          because that's just constant 55 miles an hour  
11          traffic, okay. That being said, we had March  
12          Madness here this past March or April,  
13          whatever. How many comments did we hear in the  
14          community that people that hadn't been here in  
15          Buffalo for how many years came back and the  
16          comments towards the difference in the area  
17          downtown, the improvements that were made.

18          We don't need a destination out here in  
19          Orchard Park. It's taken -- you can look at  
20          how old I am, okay? It's taken that long to  
21          get things done downtown. Now we're going to  
22          drag development away from there?

23          Now, I'm not here to talk about the

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1 Perry Projects because that's a timely, costly  
2 thing. I'm here to -- I have paperwork that I  
3 was in the City Hall today, okay? One of the  
4 lots that -- I'm talking lots just like across  
5 the street, where the infrastructure is going  
6 to be better, where there were buildings built  
7 there where we don't have to worry about  
8 artifacts, okay?

9 It's not just put the shovel in the  
10 ground for a \$1.4 billion project. I get that.  
11 I was in construction my whole life. Again,  
12 look at my age, okay?

13 It's a little more involved than that,  
14 but there is basically no difference going  
15 downtown and build it down there. Now, the  
16 tracks that go down here across 20 and into  
17 Orchard Park out into Hamburg, I'm not going to  
18 get into all the transportation. Anybody that  
19 tells me -- I have had conversations and talked  
20 to people one on one, five on one, whatever, to  
21 get to the hub of downtown. Downtown is the  
22 hub of the area. Orchard Park is not.

23 We had the 190. We have the 33. We

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1           have Delaware Avenue. We have rapid transit.  
2           What I started to say about the rail, it  
3           wouldn't take hardly anything to get these  
4           lines -- the tracks are all there. They go  
5           right to the Amtrak station.

6                     It's a matter of whether we want to go  
7           diesel or electric or whatever, but the tracks  
8           will get you right there to the Amtrak station  
9           and I talked to one of the politicians' office  
10          a few years ago about going down to the DL&W  
11          when they were talking about the overhead  
12          walkway and now they're working on that to get  
13          the light rail down through there and beyond  
14          there out the east side of it, okay.

15                    Looking at -- and I have heard my state  
16          assemblyman wants to bring people out here on  
17          rails. That's not the same as bringing people  
18          from out here into Buffalo because now you have  
19          to get people picked up from wherever you're  
20          going to drop them off and get them over here  
21          to the stadium as opposed to having them within  
22          a block or two of where I'm talking about.

23                    And I'm just -- anybody wants to see

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1           this, they're welcome to it. I'm not giving  
2           them to anybody. The area, if you know the  
3           comedy club -- if you know the Key Bank Center,  
4           Pegula Sports and Entertainment is right across  
5           the street from the parking garage. On the  
6           other side of the building is Mississippi  
7           Avenue. From Mississippi you got Baltimore,  
8           you got Columbia. Columbus or Columbia.

9                        That's all owned by Buffalo Urban  
10           Renewal. Just like this was transferred from  
11           the county to the state, somebody please tell  
12           me how we can't do the same thing down there.

13                      MR. WALTERS: Your time is up.

14                      JOHN: This is a once in a lifetime to  
15           make a difference for the area and anybody who  
16           wants to talk to me about tailgating, there's  
17           plenty. I'll talk to them about that.

18                      MR. WALTERS: Thank you.

19                      MR. GEARY: Any other speakers?

20                      MR. WALTERS: Anybody else?

21                      MR. GEARY: We'll close this off by  
22           saying thank you for coming out tonight. We  
23           have a great amount of work ahead of us on some

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1 of these comments.

2 We'll put the answers to those comments  
3 up. Our target date is the 23rd of November  
4 but, again, if you want to add more comments  
5 the website is active and will be active until  
6 November 2nd. BuffaloBillsSEQR.com. And thank  
7 you again for coming out.

8 Supervisor, thank you for hosting us.  
9 Have a good night. Drive safely.

10

11 (Public Hearing concluded at 6:58 p.m.)

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