

Appendix 4 Comments and Responses to Comments

This appendix provides the comments received regarding the scope of the review of the Project for purposes of environmental review under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (“**SEQRA**”), along with responses thereto. As noted in Section V of the Technical Addendum, the lead agency notice was circulated to the list of interested and involved agencies on July 1, 2022. In response, several interested and involved agencies submitted consents to the Erie County Legislature acting as lead agency for the purposes of a coordinated review under SEQRA. Additionally, public comment on the scope of the Project’s SEQRA review began on July 7, 2022, when the website specifically devoted to review of this project pursuant to SEQRA went live.¹ A public scoping meeting was held on July 14, 2022 (“**Scoping Meeting**”) where the public was afforded an opportunity to comment on the scope of the Project’s SEQRA review. Following the Scoping Meeting, comments were accepted online via the website until July 28, 2022. Each of the comments received during this period have been numbered in reverse chronological order, i.e., the most recent comments received begin at Comment Number 1 and the earliest comments received end with Comment Number 45.

For your reference, a summary of each comment is provided below, along with responses indicating how the comment has been addressed in the scope of review. Additionally, at the end of this document, each of the comments received are provided in the format received, including a complete transcript of the Scoping Meeting with comments made at that meeting identified in the transcript.

Comment Number 1: This comment raises questions regarding demolition and potential air quality impacts.

RESPONSE: The potential for air impacts is being considered as part of this SEQRA review, including potential for air impacts during demolition. In order to aid in the evaluation and assessment of such potential impacts, a detailed Demolition Mitigation Plan prepared by Gilbane Building Company and Turner Construction, dated August 26, 2022 (“**DMP**”) has been developed and is included in the Technical Addendum as **Appendix 18**. Additionally, an analysis of the potential for impacts to air quality is included in the Technical Addendum at Section III.F.

Comment Number 2: This comment raises questions regarding community benefits associated with the Project.

¹ <https://buffalobillsseqr.com/>

RESPONSE: The issues raised by this comment concern matters that are outside of the scope of SEQRA review, which is meant to assess the significance of the potential environmental impacts of the Project. Nevertheless, a discussion of the socioeconomic impacts of the Project in the proposed Orchard Park location in comparison to developing the New Stadium at alternative locations in the City of Buffalo, including at a site along South Park Avenue (“**Downtown Alternative**”), was prepared by Prospect Hill Consulting LLC dated October 20 to aid decision-makers and the public in understanding socioeconomic costs and benefits of the various alternatives evaluated by the Bills prior to selecting Orchard Park as its preferred Stadium location (“**Socioeconomic Comparison**”), and is provided with the Technical Addendum as **Appendix 5**.

Comment Number 3: This comment makes certain statements regarding how the commenter regards the Bills.

RESPONSE: The issues raised by this comment concern matters that are outside of the scope of SEQRA review, which is meant to assess the significance of the potential environmental impacts of the Project.

Comment Number 4: This comment expresses support for developing the Project in the City of Buffalo.

RESPONSE: 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**. Included in Appendix 5 is a Screening Level Phase I Environmental Site Assessment of the Downtown Alternative dated October 7 and prepared by LiRo Engineers, Inc., as well as the Socioeconomic Comparison, which was prepared to aid decision-makers and the public in understanding socioeconomic costs and benefits of the various alternatives evaluated by the Bills prior to selecting Orchard Park as its preferred Stadium location.

Comment Number 5: This comment raises issues regarding stadium design, specifically the incorporation of sustainability measures.

RESPONSE: Project sustainability considerations are evaluated within the context of this SEQRA review. A summary of sustainable design elements prepared by Populous and dated August 26, 2022 (“**Sustainable Design Elements Summary**”) is included in the Technical Addendum at **Appendix 3**. As discussed in the Sustainable Design Elements Summary, the Project incorporates

various sustainability measures that improve upon current conditions at the Existing Stadium. Specifically, the New Stadium will incorporate new and more efficient electrical and HVAC systems, water conservation measures, and increased greenspace that is aesthetically pleasing and serves a stormwater function. Additionally, with respect to stormwater, the Project will be developed in accordance with a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (“SWPPP”) prepared in accordance with the State Pollution Discharge Elimination System (“SPDES”) General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from Construction Activity (GP-0-20-001) that is maintained by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (“NYSDEC”). A copy of the Preliminary SWPPP is provided with the Technical Addendum at **Appendix 10**, and details various measures to handle stormwater runoff and control of erosion during construction. As required by law, runoff rates from the Project will be less than or equal to existing conditions at all discharge points. Additionally, impacts to surface water and flooding are discussed in the Technical Addendum at Sections III.C and III.D, respectively.

Comment Number 6: This comment questions why development of the Project in the City of Buffalo was discounted.

RESPONSE: See Response to Comment No. 4 above.

Comment Number 7: This comment questions why no public referendum was conducted on the Project.

RESPONSE: The issues raised by this comment concern matters that are outside of the scope of SEQRA review, which is meant to assess the significance of the potential environmental impacts of the Project. Nevertheless it is noted that neither State nor local law require a permissive referendum for this Project.

Comment Number 8: This comment asks about operational and financial impacts to Erie Community College (“ECC”) and capacity of the New Stadium.

RESPONSE: The issues raised by this comment regarding financial impacts to ECC concern matters that are outside of the scope of SEQRA review, which is meant to assess the significance of the potential environmental impacts of the Project. With respect to operational impacts, only the existing vacant athletic fields, lawned/vegetated areas and a parking lot previously servicing ECC will be displaced. Otherwise there are no operational impacts to ECC anticipated in

connection with the Project. Finally, the New Stadium is expected to have a capacity between 60,000 and 63,000.

Comment Number 9: This comment asks about the cost of the Project and the anticipated useful life of the New Stadium.

RESPONSE: The issues raised by this comment concern matters that are outside of the scope of SEQRA review, which is meant to assess the significance of the potential environmental impacts of the Project.

Comment Number 10: This comment asks about the location of sidewalks around the New Stadium.

RESPONSE: The current Traffic Management Plan (“**TMP**”) for the Existing Stadium is used to maximize capacity of the adjacent roadways and to protect the high number of pedestrians in the vicinity of the stadium during events, and is provided as **Appendix 16** to the Technical Addendum. As part of this SEQRA review of the Project, the TMP was updated and, for the first time, reduced to writing. Additionally, multimodal access to the New Stadium is evaluated in the Traffic Assessment dated October 2022 and prepared by WSP USA, Inc. (“**Traffic Assessment**”). The Traffic Assessment is included in the Technical Addendum at **Appendix 17**.

Comment Number 11: This comment questions the feasibility of a retractable roof and notes financial benefits of incorporating such roof into the New Stadium design.

RESPONSE: The project design issues raised by this comment concern matters that are outside of the scope of SEQRA review, which is meant to assess the significance of the potential environmental impacts of the Project.

Comment Number 12: This comment raises questions regarding the Project funding the local school district and emergency services.

RESPONSE: It is not anticipated that the Project, which involves replacement of the Existing Stadium on the east side of Abbott Road with the New Stadium on the west side of Abbott Road will result in any changes to funding and/or financial impacts for the local school district. With respect to emergency services, it is not otherwise anticipated that there will be any material changes in the need for police, fire, or other emergency services in connection with the Project.

Comment Number 13: This comment acknowledges the opportunity for public comment during scoping, questions the cost of the Project, expresses a preference for the Downtown Alternative, and questions whether there will be additional development in the area around the New Stadium.

RESPONSE: Some of the issues raised by this comment concern matters that are outside of the scope of SEQRA review, which is meant to assess the significance of the potential environmental impacts of the Project. In terms of the cost of the new Stadium, see response to Comment No. 9 above. In terms of the preference for the Downtown Alternative, see response to Comment No. 4 above. In terms of development around the Stadium, this SEQRA review is for the Project, which does not include any new development in the area around the New Stadium. In addition, because of the proximity of the New Stadium to the Existing Stadium (which will be demolished), it is not anticipated that the development of the New Stadium will result in material changes to the area around the New Stadium and therefore, such development is not analyzed.

Comment Number 14: This comment questions generally the environmental impacts associated with the Project, including a comparison of the New Stadium and the Existing Stadium. This comment also raises issues regarding the cost of the Project.

RESPONSE: The purpose of this SEQRA review is to evaluate whether the Project has the potential for significant adverse environmental impacts. To aid in such review and evaluation, the Technical Addendum includes detailed information regarding the Project, as well as third-party expert reports discussing potential impacts associated with the Project. Specifically, with respect to the comparison of the New Stadium to the Existing Stadium, analysis of baseline conditions, including the Existing Stadium, are evaluated in the Technical Addendum, including a detailed discussion of proposed changes as compared to baseline conditions.

To the extent that this comment touches on the cost of the Project, see response to Comment No. 9 above.

Comment Number 15: This comment expresses an opinion regarding the cost of the Project.

RESPONSE: See response to Comment No. 9 above.

Comment Number 16: This comment asks about operational and financial impacts to ECC.

RESPONSE: See response to Comment No. 8 above.

Comment Number 17: This comment asks about the location of sidewalks around the New Stadium, specifically asking whether sidewalks will be added along Abbott Road.

RESPONSE: See response to Comment No. 10 above. Additionally, the Traffic Assessment includes specific discussion of pedestrian safety and patterns along Abbott Road.

Comment Number 18: This comment asks about the capacity of the New Stadium and financial impacts to ECC.

RESPONSE: See response to Comment No. 8 above.

Comment Number 19: This comment asks about the incorporation of certain traffic mitigation measures and otherwise expresses support for the Project.

RESPONSE: An assessment of potential traffic impacts as compared to existing, baseline conditions is part of this SEQRA review. In order to aid in the evaluation and assessment of potential traffic impacts, the current TMP is provided with the Technical Addendum as **Appendix 16**, and the Traffic Assessment is provided with the Technical Addendum as **Appendix 17**.

Comment Number 20: This comment asks about the availability of additional bathroom facilities during tailgating hours and asks about the potential for noise during the construction period. This comment otherwise expresses support for the Project.

RESPONSE: The potential for impacts to human health is assessed and evaluated as part of this SEQRA review. In order to aid and facilitate such evaluation and analysis, the potential 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.

Likewise, the potential for noise impact will be assessed and evaluated as part of this SEQRA review. In order to aid and facilitate such review, an Environmental Sound Study dated October 2022 and prepared by WJHW (“**WJHW Sound Study**”) is included in the Technical Addendum at **Appendix 14**, and a Noise Impact Study, dated October 2022 and prepared by GHD (“**GHD Noise Impact Study**”), is provided in the Technical Addendum at **Appendix 15**. The WJHW Sound Study provides environmental noise modeling of the New Stadium speaker system for concert and game day events. The GHD Noise Impact Study evaluates potential noise impacts during game/event days at the New Stadium as compared to the Existing Stadium, and evaluates noise impacts associated with the construction of the New Stadium and demolition of the Existing Stadium. Otherwise, we acknowledge this fan’s support for the Project.

Comment Number 21: This comment asks about potential utility and traffic impacts.

RESPONSE: The potential for impacts to utility service is assessed and evaluated as part of this SEQRA review. In order to aid and facilitate such evaluation and analysis, a Water and Sanitary Sewer Report dated September 2022 and prepared by Carmina Wood Design is included in the Technical Addendum at **Appendix 12**, and an Electrical Demand Narrative dated October 5, 2022 and prepared by ME Engineers is included in the Technical Addendum at **Appendix 13**. In terms of traffic impacts, see response to Comment No. 19 above.

Comment Number 22: This comment raises issues regarding potential impacts to historic and archaeological resources. This comment also raises issues regarding the SEQRA process.

RESPONSE: The potential for impacts to historical and archaeological resources is evaluated as part of this SEQRA review. To aid and facilitate such evaluation and analysis, discussion of potential impacts on historic and archaeological resources is provided in Section III.J of the Technical Addendum. Additionally, a draft Phase 1A archaeology survey report, prepared by Commonwealth Heritage Group, Inc. and dated August, 2022 (“**Cultural Resources Assessment**”) is provided with the Technical Addendum at **Appendix 11**. In addition, Empire State Development, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic

² Note that this comment was submitted twice – once via the form available online and a second time on Seneca Nation of Indians letterhead, included with comments received from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.

Preservation are in consultation with the Seneca Nation of Indians, the Tuscarora Nation and the Tonawanda Seneca Nation (“**the Nations**”) regarding potential impacts to archeological resources of concern to the Nations.

Comment Number 23: This comment from a current Orchard park Councilmember raises issues regarding taxation of the Project, stormwater management, and refuse removal.

RESPONSE: With respect to that portion of this comment seeking information regarding the taxation of the Project, we note that this comment concerns matters that are outside of the scope of this SEQRA review, which is meant to assess the significance of the potential environmental impacts of the Project. Nevertheless, it is noted that no changes to the taxation of the New Stadium are anticipated as compared to the Existing Stadium.

With respect to that portion of the comment regarding stormwater management, see response to Comment No. 5 above.

With respect to that portion of the comment regarding refuse removal and as noted with respect to the response to Comment No. 20 above, the potential for impacts to human health will be assessed and evaluated as part of this SEQRA review. The Project will involve proper management of refuse, including removal and recycling as necessary. Notably, the Project is not anticipated to generate more refuse than currently produced at the Existing Stadium and similar refuse removal and recycling measures will be employed. Currently, the Bills’ Stadium Operations team manages post-event/game trash cleanup for the Existing Stadium and will continue to do so for the New Stadium. Cleaning crews beginning cleaning parking lots post tailgating/during the game and continue cleaning through the night to limit any trash from blowing off/leaving the stadium complex. These operations are continuously evaluated and will continue to be reviewed and evaluated at the Existing Stadium as well as the New Stadium and manage refuse during and after games appropriately.

Comment Number 24: This comment questions whether there will be sufficient field space for professional soccer.

RESPONSE: While the issues raised by this comment concern matters that are outside of the scope of SEQRA review it is noted that the New Stadium will be able to accommodate professional soccer games.

Comment Number 25: This comment encourages the development of additional sidewalks on Abbott Road.

RESPONSE: See response to Comment No. 10 above.

Comment Number 26: This comment seeks information regarding development of the surrounding area.

RESPONSE: See response to Comment No. 13 above.

Comment Number 27: This comment seeks information regarding stormwater management.

RESPONSE: See response to Comment No. 5 above.

Comment Number 28: This comment raises issues regarding traffic and utility capacity to service the Project.

RESPONSE: See response to Comment No. 21 above.

Comment Number 29: This comment asks about public transportation options at the Stadium.

RESPONSE: Multimodal access to the Stadium is evaluated in the course of this SEQRA review. To facilitate evaluation and consideration of this issue, the Traffic Assessment is provided in the Technical Addendum at **Appendix 17** to and the current TMP is provided with the Technical Addendum as **Appendix 16**. Specifically, with respect to bus access to the Stadium, the Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority (“**NFTA**”), as of the August 20, 2022 pre-season game, has already restored bus transportation to and from the Existing Stadium. The NFTA offers an express bus service that picks up passengers at four designated transit centers in the City and surrounding area and drops passengers off near Gate 1. Following the game, buses will depart from the intersection of Abbott Road and Bills Drive. Currently, NFTA provides six buses for this express bus route and will make more buses available as ridership increases. This restored bus service will continue during construction and following development of the New Stadium.

Comment Number 30: This comment asks whether there will be further opportunity for public input, specifically with respect to potential redevelopment of the Existing Stadium.

RESPONSE: Public comment and participation is an important part of the SEQRA process and we anticipate further opportunity for public comment including a public hearing on October 27, 2022. Comments can also be submitted via Buffalobillsseqr.com. With regard to public input on the redevelopment of the Existing Stadium, we note that the Project already contemplates redevelopment of the Existing Stadium, which will be demolished and converted to parking.

Comment Number 31: This comment asks about the applicable noise ordinance.

RESPONSE: See response to Comment No. 20 above. As noted in the GHD Noise Impact Study provided with the Technical Addendum at **Appendix 15**, the applicable noise ordinances are those for the Town of Orchard Park and the Town of Hamburg. The GHD Noise Impact Study details compliance with each relevant noise ordinance, and is prepared in accordance with NYSDEC's guidance document on assessing and mitigating noise impacts.

Comment Number 32: This comment was provided by the Town of Hamburg, which was identified as a potentially interested and involved agency for purposes of SEQRA. This comment notes that Hamburg is specifically concerned with the following potential impacts: (1) zoning and land use issues to the area; (2) the impact of the Project on ECC operations; (3) parking; (3) stormwater management; (5) water and wastewater; (6) air quality; (7) traffic; (8) construction; (9) energy; (10) noise and light; (11) aesthetics and community character; (12) community plans; (13) telecommunications; and (14) socioeconomics. This comment also raises issues regarding a potential community benefit agreement with the County and seeks a specific community benefit agreement with the Town. This comment further requests funding for law enforcement and emergency services.

RESPONSE: The potential impacts raised by the Town of Hamburg as points of concern are studied within the context of this SEQRA review. In order to aid and facilitate such evaluation and analysis, the Technical Addendum discusses the potential for various environmental impacts in connection with the Project, including those listed in this comment. To further aid in such review and analysis the Technical Addendum features a number of third-party expert reports, provided as Appendices, which discuss the potential impacts associated

with the Project.

To the extent that the Town's concerns regarding telecommunications are outside of the scope of this SEQRA review and not otherwise addressed in the Technical Addendum, it is anticipated that telecommunications service will be maintained in conjunction with the Project. Specifically, existing telecommunications service to the Bills Training Facility, Fieldhouse, Team Store, Commissary and Operations Building will be maintained. Existing service (phone and compressed data) to the Existing Stadium will be abandoned and new service (phone and compressed data) will be provisioned to the New Stadium and Ancillary Building from multiple vendors via underground conduit raceways as is standard practice with NFL Venues. The New Stadium and Ancillary Building's telecommunications and data systems will be connected to the Bills Training Facility via underground conduit raceways. Cellular DAS and a separate public responder DAS will be provided in the New Stadium, in concert with a venue provided spectator Wi-Fi deployment equal to that provided at new or recently renovated NFL venues.

Comment Number 33: This comment was provided by NYSDEC, which was identified as a potentially interested and involved agency for purposes of SEQRA. This comment references regarding stormwater management and impacts to historic and archaeological resources, and consultation with the Seneca Nations of Indians as well as the New York State Office of Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation.

RESPONSE: See response to Comment No. 5 above regarding stormwater. See response to Comment No. 22 above regarding cultural resources and consultation with the Nations.

Comment Number 34: This comment seeks information regarding accessibility of the New Stadium, tailgating facilities at the New Stadium, and the potential for additional sidewalks.

RESPONSE: This comment raises issues outside the scope of this SEQRA review, which, as noted above, is intended to assess and evaluate the significance of the potential environmental impacts of the Project. Nevertheless we note that the New Stadium has been designed for an enhanced fan experience and will accommodate fans of all ability levels, including with accessible design elements as required by federal law. Likewise, we note that the New Stadium has been designed to continue the tradition of tailgating that Bills fans have long enjoyed.

With respect to sidewalks, see response to Comment No. 10 above.

Comment Number 35: This comment asks about the impact of the Auxiliary Building to the commenter's property, notes concerns regarding snow and wind, and requests information regarding traffic impacts on Abbott Road.

RESPONSE: This comment raises issues outside the scope of this SEQRA review, which, as noted above, is intended to assess and evaluate the significance of the potential environmental impacts of the Project. Nevertheless we note that 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 his 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 his property.

With respect to traffic, see response to Comment No. 19 above.

Comment Number 36: This comment expresses the commenters opinion that workers hired for construction of the Project should be New York residents and further expresses a preference that any hiring focus on diversity.

RESPONSE: This comment raises issues outside the scope of this SEQRA review, which, as noted above, is intended to assess and evaluate the significance of the potential environmental impacts of the Project. Nevertheless we note that the Project is anticipated to create approximately 1,200 construction jobs. Workforce from the eight (8) local counties will be solicited and encouraged. Construction workforce participation is generally measured on a percentage of work hours performed. It is anticipated that 35-40% of the work hours would be filled by the local workforce. However, that percentage will fluctuate (up or down) contingent on various factors including other local construction project demand and the breakdown of trade workforce needed. Additionally, we note that approximately 1,100 individuals are currently employed at the Existing Stadium (all of which will be retained) for the New Stadium. It is anticipated that an additional approximately 250 individuals will be employed at the New Stadium Complex. Notably, the NFTA's new bus route has been designed specifically with the needs of game day employees in mind, including with respect to scheduling and route options. This more accessible stadium and improved multimodal access to the New Stadium is intended to facilitate hiring of a more diverse workforce.

Comment Number 37: This comment encourages the development of multimodal access to the New Stadium.

RESPONSE: See response to Comment No. 29 above.

Comment Number 38: This comment requests information regarding community benefits associated with the Project as well as multimodal access to the New Stadium, including for pedestrians and via public transportation.

RESPONSE: The issue raised by this comment concerning community benefits are outside of the scope of SEQRA review, which is meant to assess the significance of the potential environmental impacts of the Project. With regard to the portion of this comment regarding multimodal access, see response to Comment No. 29 above. With regard to the portion of this comment regarding pedestrian safety, see response to Comment No. 10 above.

Comment Number 39: This comment from a representative of Orchard Park Chamber of Commerce asks about benefits to the community and whether the New Stadium will facilitate traffic to and patronage of businesses in Orchard Park.

RESPONSE: With regard to the portion of this comment regarding benefits to the community, see response to Comment No. 38 above. With regard to the portion of this comment regarding patronage of Orchard Park businesses, see response to Comment No. 13 above.

Comment Number 40: This comment asks whether the Project will include potential security around the homes along Big Tree Road to prevent fans from trespassing in the yards of these homes to utilize the bathroom.

RESPONSE: As discussed above in response to similar comments, the potential for impacts to human health will be assessed and evaluated as part of this SEQRA review, including the need for additional bathroom facilities, particularly during tailgating. 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.

Comment Number 41: This comment expresses concern about impacts to water service and expresses a preference for the addition of new sidewalks.

RESPONSE: The potential for impacts to water service is assessed and evaluated as part of this SEQRA review. In order to aid and facilitate such evaluation and analysis, discussion of utility infrastructure availability, capacity and reliability is provided in the Water and Sanitary Sewer Report included in the Technical Addendum at **Appendix 12**. Based on initial discussions with the Erie County Water Authority, the primary water connection will occur on an existing transmission main separate from the mains used to service adjacent businesses and residences, alleviating water pressure issues on game days. With regard to the portion of this comment regarding multimodal access, see response to Comment No. 29 above.

Comment Number 42: This comment asks whether a pedestrian bridge over Abbott Road has been considered in lieu of sidewalks and asks about impacts to traffic associated with the Project.

RESPONSE: See responses to Comments Nos. 10 and 19 above.

Comment Number 43: This comment asks about community benefits associated with the Project, maintenance of the proposed sidewalks, refuse disposal, and the need for additional bathroom facilities to accommodate fans during tailgating.

RESPONSE: With regard to the portion of this comment regarding benefits to the community, see response to Comment No. 38 above. As noted above, the potential for impacts to human health is assessed and evaluated as part of this SEQRA review. The Project will involve proper management of refuse, including removal and recycling as necessary. Notably, the Project is not anticipated to generate more refuse than currently produced at the Existing Stadium and similar refuse removal and recycling measures will be employed. Currently, the Bills' Stadium Operations team manages post-event/game trash cleanup for the Existing Stadium and will continue to do so for the New Stadium. Cleaning crews beginning cleaning parking lots post tailgating/ during the game and continue cleaning through the night to limit any trash from blowing off/leaving the stadium complex. These operations are continuously evaluated and will continue to be reviewed and evaluated at the Existing Stadium as well as the New Stadium and manage refuse during and after games appropriately.

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.

Comment Number 44: This comment notes existing problems with the quantity of available bathroom facilities during tailgating and expresses concern about impacts to water service.

RESPONSE: With regard to the portion of this comment regarding available bathroom facilities during tailgating, see response to Comment No. 43 above. With regard to the portion of this comment regarding impacts to water service, see response to Comment No. 41 above.

Comment 45: This comment encourages multimodal access to the New Stadium.

RESPONSE: With regard to the portion of this comment regarding multimodal access, see response to Comment No. 29 above.

FEEDBACK FROM:

renee carrow
5786 Lake Ave
Orchard Park, NY 14127

MESSAGE:

I would like to have a question concern addressed..As a resident on Orchard Park near the stadium What are the environmental factors involved in a ny demolition?? Construction debris's and airborne quality ??? I would like this addressed and answered??? I have a son with special needs and air quality concerns. I will be present at the informational session!!!!

FEEDBACK FROM:

Nathan Feist
Broadway
Buffalo, NY 14203

MESSAGE:

County Executive Poloncarz must convene the county's Community Benefit Agreement committee to fulfill Section III(G) of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Bills and county. Time and leverage are waning. The CBA negotiating team must meet immediately.

FEEDBACK FROM:

daniel Mayer

tremont

kenmore, ny 14217

MESSAGE:

I classify the NFL as a Domestic Terrorist Organization for what they did to Kaepernick. the bills are no better they didn't kneel for him and they never broke there silence over it. so they are terrorists just the same. No taxation without representation..... make the big overpaid baby's pay for their own shit, don't waste my tax money on this Terrorist Organization..... and I am planning on protesting with big signs soon, maybe, who knows, I'm broke and cant afford shit.

FEEDBACK FROM:

Connie Rogers
120 E Abbott Grove
Orchard Park, NY 14127

MESSAGE:

Please help our Buffalo Community by building the stadium in BUFFALO! This is where it should have been built from the start. It could support the community and our Buffalo Business that need help. Who benefits will it out in the middle of suburbia with less than half a dozen businesses in over a mile radius!

Connie Rogers

FEEDBACK FROM:

William Schell
5300 Wethersfield Road
Silver Springs, NY 14550

MESSAGE:

Though I "Billieve" a downtown stadium would dramatically advanced the renaissance of the City of Buffalo, I feel there are priorities larger than than that of the stadium's location:

By constructing the first fully renewable/clean energy stadium in the NFL, you can make a statement on behalf of the future of sustainable development in New York State - and the nation - but also to acknowledge the ideals of the indigenous peoples who were before us, which is to appreciate the splendor of and harmonize with the natural world. (I am also aware the Pegulas made billions from the fracking industry, so maybe there is a conflict of interest on their behalf.)

Nonetheless, tax payers will be contributing a vast majority of the expenses to the new stadium. I propose we give the WNY area and the State of New York something that brings us into the future by building a model for sustainability - a renewable/clean energy and 'green' NFL stadium. (e.g. powered/heated by solar and geothermal energy; passive architecture where possible; wastewater pre-treatment systems for the tens of thousands of spectators; sports venue composting; green roof systems on low-rise areas and rain catchments and basin to mitigate stormwater runoff/sewage overflow; and green walls or façades on the face of walls, etc.)

I truly hope you consider these features and help make a statement that has long been missing from this country - a statement of environmental acknowledgement and sustainability.

Kind regards,

William

FEEDBACK FROM:

James Rudnicki
4750 Mount Vernon Blvd
Hamburg, NY 14075-3226

MESSAGE:

This appears to be the first real public hearing that involves genuine feedback from the public. Seems like there should have been a LOT more public input prior to now. The PSE appears to have disqualified any locations in the city of Buffalo out of hand. This is unacceptable. It appears that about 20 to 25 acres of additional ECCC South will be transferred to construct the stadium proper. Any location chosen in the city would require at least that much for the stadium proper plus ground level parking for the great majority, if not all the vehicles attending the game. That means about 12,000 vehicles. Finally, there would need to be roads to move those vehicles in and out of the parking lots in a reasonable amount of time.

A location that would provide those three key components exists east of Ohio Street if three industrial properties and an inactive rail yard are combined. Only Rigidized Metals is an active business. It can be moved. Pierce & Stevens, a coatings and adhesives business covering seven acres, was purchased by Ridgidized for about \$450,000 several years ago. Gerdau, a scrap metal shredding business, is inactive. The Burrow rail yard has been essentially inactive since the loss of grain shipments to the Silo City grain silos over twenty years ago. The total acreage for the site would be in excess of 40 acres. There would be approximately 4000 parking spots available in addition to the stadium. About 3000 additional parking spots could be gained by filling in about 2500 feet of the City Ship Canal across the street. There is room for about 2500 more on the site of the former Freezer Queen property on the Outer Harbor. The amphitheater being built on the Outer Harbor will have about 5000 more. The stadium should be located on the Gerdau property to take advantage of the proximity of existing bridges over the railroad tracks to access the Outer Harbor. A light rail spur (about a mile) can be run from the back of the DL&W terminal over Kelly Island (Ganson Street) to the stadium for access by the NFTA. With that, it can be run to the amphitheater and the Outer Harbor as well.

The NYSDOT recently proposed an inland alternative to the elevated Route 5/Skyway at a cost of about \$550 million. That project is currently on hold. For less than \$500 million a better alternative connecting to the I-190 at Hamburg Street could be constructed with a direct ON/OFF ramp to the new stadium. The Skyway would be retained with a few minor tweaks to other streets to create a traffic system that would be far superior to what exists at Highmark stadium right now. This stadium project, as proposed, asks for a huge public money commitment without any public infrastructure improvements. That is unacceptable. This project should be rejected out of hand.

FEEDBACK FROM:
James Walfrand
48 Howard
Williamsville, NY 14221

MESSAGE:
Why is there not a public referendum on the project, especially due to the cost.

FEEDBACK FROM:

Ray Barker
227 Woodward Ave.
Buffalo, NY 14214

MESSAGE:

Comment #1: If acreage from ECC South is being transferred to the State of New York for the use of the Buffalo Bills/Pegula Sport and Entertainment, then Erie Community College should be appropriately compensated. Just \$5-6 Million in compensation alone would balance the college's current budget. It is unfair for Erie County and NYS to prioritize the wealth of a private individual (Billionaire Terry Pegula) over the higher education needs of students in the Southtowns. I am dismayed that some legislators have prioritized the Buffalo Bills over ECC South, when ECC South has a much larger financial and social impact on Erie County. If the ECC President David Balkin has not demanded compensation for the loss of land that belongs to the college, then he is not properly performing his duties as a college president.

Comment #2: The purpose of reducing the capacity of the stadium has nothing to do with the noise volume of fans or their proximity to the field of play. The obvious purpose of lowering capacity is to create artificial scarcity in order to increase ticket revenues and appease the NFL's greedy ownership. A taxpayer funded football stadium should seat no less than 80,000 fans...the capacity of Rich Stadium for most of my lifetime.

FEEDBACK FROM:

Donald Blank
301 Lexington Ave
Buffalo, NY 14222

MESSAGE:

Old stadium only lasted 30 years. Billion dollar + New stadium built to last longer???

FEEDBACK FROM:

Mark Menchi
3617 connie trail
blasdell, NY 14219

MESSAGE:

My concern is we should have side walks on Abbott Road between 179 and southwestern, you have to walk in road in this section, then the mall and quaker crossing would be connected by walk ways !

FEEDBACK FROM:
WAYNE NORWOOD
5 ANEMONE LN
W HENRIETTA, NY 14586

MESSAGE:
Why has the idea of a retractable roof been dismissed so quickly. I understand that the home field advantages wants to be preserved but with a retractable roof it can. Let the league know that the roof will be left open during the season and playoffs, This way Buffalo can be in the bidding for hosting a Super Bowl. This will be a boast to the economy of Buffalo, Rochester, Erie, Toronto and many other surrounding areas. It also opens up many other year round opportunities.

FEEDBACK FROM:

Glenn Coe
Ferndale drive
Orchard Park, NY 14127

MESSAGE:

I'd like to know why there's no money for the Orchard Park school district. The Bills haven't paid a dime of school tax. The richest company in the town pays no school tax.

Also I'd like to know where the money is for police, fire and emergency services for the town.

FEEDBACK FROM:

Mark Piniarski
4 Slate Creek Drive, Apt 11
Cheektowaga, NY 14227

MESSAGE:

Glad to see the public having a chance to comment on this Orchard Park project. Wish we would've had the same courtesy when it came to whether to even spend public money on this....or whether we would've preferred this be done in the city of Buffalo at the higher cost estimates. But since it's a done deal this is going to be in the same location, can we at least do everything possible to get some development around the stadium so there are things for people to do or places to go to in the area before and after events, like around the Patriots and Cardinals stadiums? There is absolutely nothing around the current stadium other than a few small dive bars. Abbott road between southwestern and big tree should be packed with places for people to go when the new stadium is in operation....exactly what you would've had had the stadium been built in the city like most others are.

FEEDBACK FROM:

James Rudnicki
4750 Mount Vernon Blvd
Hamburg, NY 14075-3226

MESSAGE:

I'm going to make the argument that humans are part of the environment. People have certainly affected the environment with, pollution, poor air quality and global warming so it makes sense to include them in this SEQR. Let's compare what the new stadium will bring compared to what we have now with the existing one. There will be a slightly lower capacity so some current attendees will be unable to attend games. Maybe slightly less air pollution from automobiles. Those who watch the games on television will be unaffected. Those who neither watch nor attend fall into two groups; tax paying and non-taxpaying citizens. The non payers will be unaffected. The taxpayers will shoulder the burden of the public contribution to stadium construction. That's at least \$100 for every state taxpayer and at least \$400 for every Erie County taxpayer (the \$100 state and at least \$300 county tax). There is ZERO money paid back to the state or county by the Bills over the course of the lease. The citizens will lose the opportunity to spend about \$ 1 BILLION on other public works projects. All this together indicates a HUGE NEGATIVE IMPACT on the people of Western NY and NY state. DO NOT ALLOW THIS DEAL TO GO FORWARD!

FEEDBACK FROM:

David Gawel
2355 Hobblebush Lane
Lake View, NY 14085

MESSAGE:

This is an extremely poor use of taxpayer dollars. This money could have been much better spent on other improvements for the county and even helped reduce taxes and improve the schools. The Bills, and Kathy Hochul out to be ashamed of themselves for fully taking advantage of the state taxpayers. This is the worst business deal in the history of the NFL.

FEEDBACK FROM:

Justyne Harris
28 Short Drive
Orchard Park, NY 14127

MESSAGE:

Under the proposal, land from ECC South will be transferred to the State for the sole use of Pegula Sport and Entertainment for the stadium and for parking lots that adjoin the Stadium.

What will ECC receive from this land transfer? So far as I can tell: nothing.

ECC recently laid off 150 employees to accomodate the eventual (2023) closing of South Campus for this stadium. The president of ECC is is using the excuse of a deficit in our budget to justify the closing of this campus in order to fulfill the wants of the Pegulas, even though we all know it is for the new stadium. In a capitalist society, land costs money. If even \$10 million had to be paid to ECC, we could restore jobs and balance the budget so that ECC can flourish once again. We want to see The Bills succeed, but not at the expense of our community College. Do the right thing and pay ECC for that land!

FEEDBACK FROM:

Dr. Patrick J. Keem
180 Bridle LN
Elma, NY 14059-9452

MESSAGE:

As Orchard Park Town Supervisor, I and Legislator John Mills met with several residents around the current stadium who requested better sidewalks around the area. On gameday I park on East Abbott Grove so I'm able to personally view the danger of fans waking on Abbott Road between Southwestern and Milestrip Roads. Please include new wide sidewalks in that area for the safety of our Bills fans.

Best regards,
Dr. Patrick J. Keem
Former Town Supervisor of Orchard Park

FEEDBACK FROM:

Norman Baker
33 Summit Ave
Buffalo, NY 14214

MESSAGE:

Is it not true that reduction of capacity to 60,000 is merely means to create artificial demand and thus warrant rise in ticket prices ? Not intimate viewing experience.

Is ECC being compensated for land taken from it?!

FEEDBACK FROM:
Heidi Gerace
4116 Sheldon Road
Orchard Park, NY 14127

MESSAGE:
We definitely need a light at Southwestern and Brompton!! Traffic has increased over the years and it will continue once the stadium moves closer. It will be an exciting time for the Orchard Park and Hamburg area!! Go Bills!!!

FEEDBACK FROM:

Stan Gasiewicz
4914 Big Tree Road
Hamburg, NEW YORK 14075

MESSAGE:

I've lived at 4914 Big Tree Road for 39 years and have become accustomed to the activities (Bills games, Concerts, etc.) that occur at Highmark Stadium. My home is one of 7 located between the 2 entrances to ECC South Campus and the 7 properties' rear property lines are adjacent to the College property. The ECC parking lot is behind our properties and fans are allowed to tailgate there before the football games begin. Ernie Dobies, who lives in one of the homes, expressed concern about the fans urinating on his property. He has lived there for 15 years and planted several evergreens on his property where the fans go to urinate because this offers privacy. Rather than erect a barrier, as he suggested, I recommend that more strategically placed portable toilets be positioned throughout the Parking lot to accommodate the fans that are tailgating there 4 hours before the game begins.

I'm concerned about the noise during construction of the new stadium. I mention this because recently, with the replacement of the ECC sidewalks, the construction vehicles were starting work as early as 7:00 a.m. According to the construction plans for the stadium, the parking lot behind our homes will be used to store items for the project and there will probably be a significant amount of activity going on during construction.

I am a Season ticket holder in what is now the Toyota Club for the last 13 years and had previously been a Season ticket holder when the stadium 1st opened. Instead of a 10 minute walk to my seats, it will now be 5 minutes. I hope to continue as a Season ticket holder in the new stadium.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss anything related to the stadium project, you can reach me at 716-725-5048. Stan G.

FEEDBACK FROM:

Stan Gasiewicz
4914 Big Tree Road
Hamburg, NEW YORK 14075

MESSAGE:

I'm adding to the feedback I provided yesterday. I attended the 7/14/22 meeting at the Bills' Fieldhouse. At that meeting, the owner of Danny's Restaurant stated he has low water pressure during the Bills games. At the present time, I do not have utility issues during Bills games. This includes water, electric, gas and sewer. Could this be because I live in Hamburg and not Orchard Park? Let's keep it that way.

Because of my location, traffic is always backed up before and after the games. I plan accordingly if I have to go out during these times.

Thanks. Stan G.

FEEDBACK FROM:

Matthew Pagels
12837 Route 438
Irving, New York 14081

MESSAGE:

Greetings:

The Seneca Nation of Indians (the “Seneca Nation”) writes in response to the request for public comments on the scope of the SEQR review for the Buffalo Bills new stadium project (the “Project”). I have been authorized to submit these comments to state the position of the Seneca Nation with regard to the Project. In short, the Seneca Nation is requesting that the Tribal Historic Preservation Office (“THPO”) be permitted to observe and monitor the initial construction phases of the Project in order to protect Seneca heritage and culture. We further request that the Seneca Nation and THPO be included on the “List of Potentially Interested and Involved Agencies.”

The Seneca Nation would like to commend the County of Erie and Buffalo Bills organization for seeking public input on the Project, as it has the potential to bring many positive impacts to Western New York. We are, however, disappointed to see that neither the Seneca Nation, nor the Tonawanda Seneca, were included in the “List of Potentially Interested and Involved Agencies,” despite the fact that Highmark Stadium sits directly on top of known Seneca sites, confirmed by the State Historic Preservation Office’s own records. Given the proximity of the Project to Highmark Stadium, the Seneca Nation and THPO have serious concerns that the proposed excavation of approximately 500,000 cubic yards, at a depth of up to 35 feet, will disturb or destroy any archaeological sites situated within the footprint of the Project.

To explain our unique interest in the archaeology of the proposed area for the Project, we are compelled to inform you of our history. The Seneca Nation is a sovereign, self-governing Native Nation with a population of approximately 8,500 citizens. From time immemorial, Seneca people have lived, raised families, and been laid to rest in the area we now refer to as Western New York. For more than 400 years, we have resisted attempted genocide, forced assimilation, and the intentional destruction of our culture and language. Despite every attempt to erase us from our ancestral lands, we remain. Today, the Seneca people live and work on the same lands that our ancestors walked upon over a thousand years ago.

At one time, our territory was vast, stretching from horizon to horizon. Now, the Seneca Nation holds title in restricted fee to five territories totaling approximately 54,000 acres, or 84 square miles. Despite our present diminished land holdings, the Seneca people have had extensive interaction with the area of Highmark Stadium and the Project. In fact, the topography and certain archaeological findings near Highmark Stadium indicate that Highmark Stadium – and the proposed area of the Project – are situated within an ancient Seneca town site. Moreover, despite the existing parking lots adjacent to Erie Community College, there is likely cultural materials located within the Project area.

At the time Highmark Stadium was constructed, in 1971, the Seneca Nation was omitted from the planning. This resulted in Highmark Stadium being built, and the parking lots being paved, without input from the Seneca Nation. Over time, it was discovered that numerous burial sites and sites of important historical and archaeological significance were found in the areas adjacent to Highmark Stadium. For example, in 1972, the first burial sites were uncovered and in 1983, lithics were found next to Highmark Stadium’s footprint. These sites are known to the State Historic Preservation Office and the information is publicly available for your review.

Importantly, we have reason to believe that there will be additional materials as well as possibly burial sites within the proposed Project area. For starters, the proposed area of the Project sits on a plateau, with access to seasonal streams and only two miles from Lake Erie. In our estimation, this is an ideal location for a town site. Our assertion is bolstered by previous findings in areas near the proposed Project area. Further, when the parking lots for Erie Community College and Highmark Stadium were originally paved, it is unlikely that the land was excavated deep enough to uncover Seneca burial sites. Traditional Seneca burials ranged from approximately 6 inches to four feet deep, well below that which would have been needed to grade and pave the existing parking lots. The land underlying the parking lots for Highmark Stadium and the Project have never been studied and this might be the Seneca Nation's and SHPO's only opportunity to do so.

While we can certainly expand our discussion of our long history in the region, and our concerns regarding disturbing archaeological sites, we submit these comments to start a conversation about how the construction of the Project can proceed in a respectful manner. It is important to us that we be involved early, so that our history is not lost, again. We are not seeking to obstruct or disrupt the Project but we have a solemn obligation to our people and our future generations to ensure that our history is protected and preserved for posterity. It is our sincere hope that we can work together to protect the past while building for the future.

A copy of these comments, with attachments depicting known archaeological sites, will be sent to the following: New York's State Historic Preservation Office, the Department of Environmental Conservation, State Senator Timothy M. Kennedy, Bureau of Indian Affairs – Eastern Region, County Executive Mark C. Poloncarz, the Houghton Chapter of the New York State Archaeological Association, and Governor Kathy Hochul.

Nya;weh,

FEEDBACK FROM:

Conor Flynn
4295 South Buffalo St
Orchard Park, NY 14127

MESSAGE:

1. The Buffalo Bills organization has existed in the Town of Orchard Park and used Town of Orchard Park services without paying property taxes since it's inception. This is due to the State Legislature designating the current stadium as operating for a "public purpose" (see County of Erie vs. Kerr, 49 A.D.2d 174 (N.Y. App. Div. 1975)). Will the new stadium also be operating for a "public purpose" and thus not subject to local property tax? Will the new planned parking lots on the current site of the Buffalo Bills stadium also be operating for a "public purpose" and thus not subject to local town property tax? The state and county have taken a significant portion of the Town of Orchard Park's taxable land mass and taken it off the tax rolls, shifting that burden onto Orchard Park residents. The state and county realize the benefits while Orchard Park residents shoulder the cost.
2. Related to (1), Town of Orchard Park taxpayers pay roughly \$70,000 per year in police overtime so that a multi-billion dollar for-profit organization can host Western New York's biggest block party 10 or more times each year. Will the State, County, or Buffalo Bills organization make Orchard Park taxpayers whole for this cost, as we would expect with any neighborhood block party?
3. If the existing Buffalo Bills stadium will indeed be converted to parking lots what is the plan for managing stormwater runoff so as to not negatively affect Orchard Park residents?
4. What plans do the state, county, and Buffalo Bills organization have to manage litter from parking lots drifting into local resident's properties and surrounding waterways during the off-season?

Buffalo Bills – Proposed New Stadium
Public SEQR Scoping Meeting - July 14 - Comment Card

First Name: Angie Last Name: Schmitz

Street: 10250 Jennings Rd

City: North Collins State: Ny Zip Code: 14111

Email: [REDACTED]

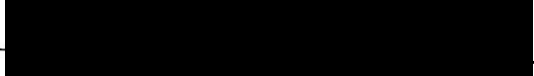
Feedback/Comment: It had been mentioned that the footprint of the new stadium would be smaller than the current one. Does that mean that the possibility of the field area for professional soccer is now off the table?

**Buffalo Bills – Proposed New Stadium
Public SEQR Scoping Meeting - July 14 - Comment Card**

First Name: Carl Last Name: Cutrone

Street: _____

City: Lockport State: NY Zip Code: 14218

Email: 

Feedback/Comment: Sidewalk on Abbott Rd should
be a priority. Too much overflow of pedestrians into
traffic lanes is a constant problem.

Buffalo Bills – Proposed New Stadium
Public SEQR Scoping Meeting - July 14 - Comment Card

First Name: David ~~Even~~ Last Name: Even

Street: 42 Green Lake Drive

City: Orchard Park State: NY Zip Code: 14127

Email: [REDACTED]

Feedback/Comment: President of Orchard Park Chamber/Liasion to
Orchard Park Economic Development Committee

Feedback: What are the plans for surrounding area?
The OPEDC had mentioned in their strategic plan making the area around the stadium a destination. Maybe a Bills museum?

Buffalo Bills – Proposed New Stadium
Public SEQR Scoping Meeting - July 14 - Comment Card

First Name: EMRY Last Name: HARTLOFF

Street: 4825 BIG TREE RD

City: HAMBURG State: NY Zip Code: 14075

Email: [REDACTED]

Feedback/Comment: Run off water entering Smokes Creek
the creek runs through my property

Buffalo Bills – Proposed New Stadium
Public SEQR Scoping Meeting - July 14 - Comment Card

First Name: Leanne Last Name: RINALO
Street: 4973 PARKER Rd.
City: Hamburg State: NY Zip Code: 14075
Email: [REDACTED]

Feedback/Comment: PARKER Road cannot accomodate
the traffic from Bills games. I am hoping this
will not get worse.
Also the water pressure on Parker is terrible - so
where is water traveling from to stadium.

Buffalo Bills – Proposed New Stadium
Public SEQR Scoping Meeting - July 14 - Comment Card

First Name: MARCUS ~~Costello~~ Last Name: Costello

Street: 3015 DELAWARE AVENUE

City: KENMORE State: NY Zip Code: 14217

Email: [REDACTED]

Feedback/Comment: Hoping when new Buffalo Bills stadium starts being built & when finished — improved Metro Bus service could be restored for games & other events at the stadium. Years ago service was stopped. Bus only goes to Abbott Lake with a half hour walk to get to stadium. Bring back service where bus parks in the lot during game & when game over — take fans back to downtown UB + Niagara Falls like they did before.

Buffalo Bills – Proposed New Stadium
Public SEQR Scoping Meeting - July 14 - Comment Card

First Name: MARK Last Name: KOSCIELNIAK

Street: 3584 ABBOTT RD

City: ORCHARD PARK State: NY Zip Code: 14127

Email: [REDACTED]

Feedback/Comment: Will The Buffalo Bills Ask The Public For Ideas To what They might want to see when Highmark gets Demolished in this Area? I personally researching my own Ideas AND doing DRAWINGS FOR my Idea. I dont think ANY NFL STADIUM will HAVE [over]

WHAT I AM PROPOSING.

Thank you.

Buffalo Bills – Proposed New Stadium
Public SEQR Scoping Meeting - July 14 - Comment Card

First Name: STAN Last Name: GASIEWICZ

Street: 4914 BIG TREE RD.

City: HAMBURG State: N.Y. Zip Code: 14075

Email: [REDACTED]

Feedback/Comment: WHAT IS THE NOISE ORDINANCE THAT
WILL BE FOLLOWED.

TOWN OF HAMBURG

6100 South Park Avenue • Hamburg, New York 14075 • (716) 649-6111 • Fax (716) 649-4087



Supervisor
RANDALL A. HOAK

Councilmembers
SHAWN P. CONNOLLY
ELIZABETH C. FARRELL
KAREN L. HOAK
MEGAN COMERFORD

Town Attorney
LISA A. POCH

Town Clerk
CATHERINE A. RYBCZYNSKI

Supt. of Highways
EDWARD HUGHES

July 29, 2022

Via regular mail & email to mark.rountree@erie.gov

Mark Rountree
County of Erie
Department of Environment & Planning
Edward A. Rath County Office Building
95 Franklin Street, 10th Floor
Buffalo, New York 14202

RE: SEQR Consent, Comments & Request for Future Meetings
CBA Comments & Request for Future Meetings

Dear Mr. Rountree:

The Town of Hamburg is in receipt of the SEQR Lead Agency mailing from Erie County dated July 1, 2022.

Based on the Town of Hamburg's review of this document, including attachments, and our meeting with Erie County on July 13, 2022, we have signed the Lead Agency request form (enclosed) with the following notes, concerns and conditions:

1. As an Involved/Interested Agency, and a community that will be directly impacted by the new stadium (with the stadium project to be located right on our municipal boundary and parking located in the Town of Hamburg), the Town of Hamburg requests that the Town be actively involved in the creation of the SEQR materials. This involvement will include review and comment on draft materials, and periodic meetings with the County and their consulting team.
2. Meetings will include, but not be limited to, issues relating to potential impacts, emergency services, transportation, CBA, construction impacts, etc.
3. Some of our specific areas of concern (at this time – as we learn more about the project, these may change) include:

- a. Zoning and land use issues to the area
- b. The impact of the project on the operations of ECCC south campus
- c. Impacts to Parking, including but not limited to the proposed parking lot that will be located in the Town of Hamburg
- d. Surface water, drainage and flooding (2 drainage sheds and problems)
- e. Water and wastewater (known problems in the area)
- f. Air quality
- g. Transportation/traffic, multi-modal improvements, bikes and pedestrian accessibility
- h. Construction related impacts during construction of the new stadium and removal of the old)
- i. Energy impacts
- j. Noise and Lighting impacts
- k. Views/character of the area
- l. Impacts to community plans and Comprehensive Plan
- m. Impacts to community services: police, fire, emergency services, etc.
- n. Telecommunications impacts
- o. Socioeconomic impacts

Lastly, and imperatively, based on the above impacts, the Town of Hamburg wants to be actively involved with any CBA discussions and perhaps even have our own CBA. It is my understanding that Erie County is trying to finalize a CBA by September 1st. If that is the case, I am requesting a meeting to discuss same in advance of the execution of any CBA (we had discussed having a separate meeting with law enforcement/emergency service providers at our last meeting). As an initial matter, the Town would want to be reimbursed for law enforcement/emergency services costs associated with the new stadium and adjacent areas and its impact on our Town, including but not limited to the parking lot that will be located within our boundaries.

Thank you and we look forward to our next meetings on both the SEQR process and the CBA.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Randall A. Hoak". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Randall A. Hoak
Hamburg Town Supervisor

RAH/
Encl.

To: All Potentially Interested and Involved Agencies

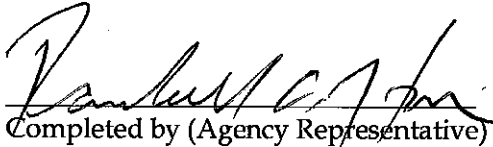
July 1, 2022

**Acknowledgment of the Erie County Legislature ("Legislature")
to Act as Lead Agency and Conduct a Coordinated Review Pursuant to the
New York State Environmental Quality Review Act**

Project: Buffalo Bills Stadium Project

Location: 1 Bills Drive, Orchard Park, NY 14127 (SBLs: 161.00-5-3.1; 161.00-5-1; 161.00-5-16.1;
161.17-6-1; 161.17-1-3; 161.17-1-4.2; 161.17-6-10; 160.16-1-12 and 160.19-1-4.1)
("Property")

The TOWN OF HAMBURG consents to the designation of the Legislature as the lead agency for the above referenced project.


Completed by (Agency Representative)

TOWN OF HAMBURG
Agency

7/29/22
Date

This notice has been provided to the following Potentially Interested and Involved Agencies:

1. Office of the Governor of New York State
2. New York State Urban Development Corporation d/b/a Empire State Development
3. New York State Division of Historic Preservation, NYOPRHP
4. New York State Division of Historic Preservation
5. New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Region 9
6. New York State Division of Budget
7. New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
8. New York State Department of Transportation
9. New York State Department of Transportation, Regional
10. New York State Police Troop A
11. Public Authorities Control Board
12. State University at New York System Board of Directors
13. State University at New York System
14. Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority
15. New York State Urban Development Corporation d/b/a Empire State Development WNY Region
16. Erie County Executive's Office
17. Erie County Legislature
18. Erie County Stadium Corporation c/o Empire State Development Corporation
19. Erie County Water Authority
20. Erie County Sewer District #3 Board of Managers
21. Erie County Department of Public Works

22. Erie County Department of Health
23. Erie County Sheriff
24. Erie Community College Board of Trustees
25. Erie Community College
26. Erie County Department of Health
27. Erie County Industrial Development Agency
28. Town of Orchard Park
29. Orchard Park Building Inspector/Code Enforcement
30. Orchard Park Planning Board
31. Orchard Park Zoning Board of Appeals
32. Orchard Park Police Department
33. Orchard Park Fire District
34. Town of Hamburg
35. Hamburg Planning Board
36. Hamburg Zoning Board of Appeals
37. Hamburg Building/Code Enforcement
38. Hamburg Police Department
39. Hamburg Fire Department
40. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

For Further Information Contact:

Mark Rountree, Chief Planner
Erie County Environment and Planning
Attn: Mark Rountree
Edward A Rath County Office Building
95 Franklin Street, 10th Floor
Buffalo, New York 14202

Phone: (716) 858-8008
Fax: (716) 858-7248

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

Division of Environmental Permits, Region 9
700 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14209
P: (716) 851-7165 | F: (716) 851-7168
www.dec.ny.gov

August 5, 2022

SENT VIA EMAIL

Mark Rountree, Chief Planner
Erie County Environment and Planning
Edward A Rath County Office Building
95 Franklin Street, 10th Floor
Buffalo, New York 14202

Dear Mark Rountree,

SEQR Lead Agency Coordination
New Buffalo Bills Stadium Proposal
Towns of Orchard Park and Hamburg

This letter is to acknowledge receipt of your July 1, 2022, notice requesting State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQR) Lead Agency status for the proposed new Buffalo Bills stadium. The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) concurs that the Erie County Legislature should act as SEQR Lead Agency. However please be aware of the following:

1. Because proposed project activities will involve land disturbance of one acre or more, the project sponsor, owner, or operator is required to obtain a State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from Construction Activity (GP-0-20-001). This General Permit requires the project sponsor, owner, or operator to control stormwater runoff according to a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), which is to be prepared prior to filing a Notice of Intent (NOI) and prior to commencement of the project. More information on General Permit GP-0-20-001, as well as the NOI form, is available on the NYSDEC's website at www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/43133.html. Information on permitting requirements and preparation of a necessary Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) is available at www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8468.html.
2. The project site is within an archaeologically sensitive area based on information obtained through the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation's (OPRHP) Cultural Resource Information System (CRIS) available on the OPRHP website at <https://cris.parks.ny.gov/>. This area is highly sensitive due to the presence of a Seneca village known as the "Ellis Site" dating to the 17th-18th centuries. Several burial sites are in the immediate area, including

August 5, 2022

Page 2

burials disturbed before and during the construction of Highmark Stadium. This area has never been comprehensively surveyed for archaeological sites or burials.

Be advised that President Pagels of the Seneca Nation of Indians has provided comments about this site in a letter dated July 29, 2022 (attached). DEC advises Erie County to consult with the Seneca Nation of Indians and the Tonawanda Seneca Nation regarding potential impacts to the Ellis Site. In addition, DEC will consult with these Nations pursuant to Commissioner's Policy 42 as part of coverage under GP-0-20-001.

In addition, Highmark Stadium itself may be eligible for listing on the National and State Registers of Historic Preservation. As the Stadium is over 50 years old, it will require an evaluation by OPRHP, particularly how the structure embodies the community's relationship to broad patterns of recreation history for both football and music concerts. Highmark Stadium may also be the sole surviving representation of stadium architecture dating to the mid-20th Century period of suburbanization. It is noted that Erie County has coordinated the review of this action with OPRHP; DEC's actions will also require compliance with State Historic Preservation Law.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (716) 851-7165.

Sincerely,

David S. Denk

David S. Denk
Regional Permit Administrator

Seneca Nation of Indians

President - Matthew B. Pagels
Clerk - Marta L. Kettle

12837 ROUTE 438
CATTARAUGUS TERRITORY
SENECA NATION
IRVING, NY 14081

Tel. (716) 532-4900
FAX (716) 532-6272



Treasurer - Rickey L. Armstrong Sr.

90 OHI:YO' WAY
ALLEGANY TERRITORY
SENECA NATION
SALAMANCA, NY 14779

Tel. (716) 945-1790
FAX (716) 945-1565

PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

July 29, 2022

Re: Buffalo Bills SEQR Comments

Greetings:

Nya:wëh sgë:nö'

NYSDEC

AUG 01 2022

Division of
Environmental Permits

The Seneca Nation of Indians (the "Seneca Nation") writes in response to the request for public comments on the scope of the SEQR review for the Buffalo Bills new stadium project (the "Project"). I have been authorized to submit these comments to state the position of the Seneca Nation with regard to the Project. In short, the Seneca Nation is requesting that the Tribal Historic Preservation Office ("THPO") be permitted to observe and monitor the initial construction phases of the Project in order to protect Seneca heritage and culture. We further request that the Seneca Nation and THPO be included on the "List of Potentially Interested and Involved Agencies."

The Seneca Nation would like to commend the County of Erie and Buffalo Bills organization for seeking public input on the Project, as it has the potential to bring many positive impacts to Western New York. We are, however, disappointed to see that neither the Seneca Nation, nor the Tonawanda Seneca, were included in the "List of Potentially Interested and Involved Agencies," despite the fact that Highmark Stadium sits directly on top of known Seneca sites, confirmed by the State Historic Preservation Office's own records.¹ Given the proximity of the Project to Highmark Stadium, the Seneca Nation and THPO have serious concerns that the proposed excavation of approximately 500,000 cubic yards, at a depth of up to 35 feet, will disturb or destroy any archaeological sites situated within the footprint of the Project.

¹ Attached to this letter is a map of the known archaeological sites near Highmark Stadium. At the top of the image, from left to right, the three blue triangles: 1. ~8 burials, 2. ~3 burials, and 3. unknown. All three locations were previously desecrated by pothunters and looters. The burials associated with this location tend to be more historic in origin -late 1600s to 1700s.

The three red triangles going top down: 1. A lot of stone flakes, tools (workshop area), and unknown bone fragments, 2. More flakes, 3. More flakes.

To explain our unique interest in the archaeology of the proposed area for the Project, we are compelled to inform you of our history. The Seneca Nation is a sovereign, self-governing Native Nation with a population of approximately 8,500 citizens. From time immemorial, Seneca people have lived, raised families, and been laid to rest in the area we now refer to as Western New York. For more than 400 years, we have resisted attempted genocide, forced assimilation, and the intentional destruction of our culture and language. Despite every attempt to erase us from our ancestral lands, we remain. Today, the Seneca people live and work on the same lands that our ancestors walked upon over a thousand years ago.

At one time, our territory was vast, stretching from horizon to horizon. Now, the Seneca Nation holds title in restricted fee to five territories totaling approximately 54,000 acres, or 84 square miles. Despite our present diminished land holdings, the Seneca people have had extensive interaction with the area of Highmark Stadium and the Project. In fact, the topography and certain archaeological findings near Highmark Stadium indicate that Highmark Stadium – and the proposed area of the Project – are situated within an ancient Seneca town site. Moreover, despite the existing parking lots adjacent to Erie Community College, there is likely cultural materials located within the Project area.

At the time Highmark Stadium was constructed, in 1971, the Seneca Nation was omitted from the planning. This resulted in Highmark Stadium being built, and the parking lots being paved, without input from the Seneca Nation. Over time, it was discovered that numerous burial sites and sites of important historical and archaeological significance were found in the areas adjacent to Highmark Stadium. For example, in 1972, the first burial sites were uncovered and in 1983, lithics were found next to Highmark Stadium's footprint. These sites are known to the State Historic Preservation Office and the information is publicly available for your review.

Importantly, we have reason to believe that there will be additional materials as well as possibly burial sites within the proposed Project area. For starters, the proposed area of the Project sits on a plateau, with access to seasonal streams and only two miles from Lake Erie. In our estimation, this is an ideal location for a town site. Our assertion is bolstered by previous findings in areas near the proposed Project area. Further, when the parking lots for Erie Community College and Highmark Stadium were originally paved, it is unlikely that the land was excavated deep enough to uncover Seneca burial sites. Traditional Seneca burials ranged from approximately 6 inches to four feet deep, well below that which would have been needed to grade and pave the existing parking lots. The land underlying the parking lots for Highmark Stadium and the Project have never been studied and this might be the Seneca Nation's and SHPO's only opportunity to do so.

While we can certainly expand our discussion of our long history in the region, and our concerns regarding disturbing archaeological sites, we submit these comments to start a conversation about how the construction of the Project can proceed in a respectful manner. It is important to us that we be involved early, so that our history is not lost, again. We are not seeking to obstruct or disrupt the Project but we have a solemn obligation to our people and our future generations to ensure that our history is protected and preserved for posterity. It is our sincere hope that we can work together to protect the past while building for the future.

A copy of these comments, with attachments depicting known archaeological sites, will be sent to the following: New York's State Historic Preservation Office, the Department of Environmental Conservation, State Senator Timothy M. Kennedy, Bureau of Indian Affairs – Eastern Region, County Executive Mark C. Poloncarz, the Houghton Chapter of the New York State Archaeological Association, and Governor Kathy Hochul.

Nya:wëh,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Pagels' with a stylized flourish at the end.

Matthew B. Pagels
Seneca Nation President



California Rd

Ellis Rd

Stepping Stone Ln

Drive 5

Saltwater Blvd

Sheldon Rd

Town of Har
Town of Oreka

New Era Field

Drive 3

Campus Dr

Drive 2

Bills Dr

Abbot Rd

Fay St

Glen St

Allen St

Oakwood St

Drive 1

Pilger Pl

Buffab Bills
Fieldhouse

MS

20A

Dr

undy
sub

Rd



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BUFFALO BILLS STADIUM

PUBLIC SEQR SCOPING MEETING

**HELD ON
THURSDAY, JULY 14, 2022
5:30 P.M.**

**BUFFALO BILLS HIGHMARK STADIUM FIELDHOUSE
1 BILLS DRIVE
ORCHARD PARK, NEW YORK 14127**



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BUFFALO BILLS STADIUM
PUBLIC SEQR SCOPING MEETING
HELD ON
THURSDAY, JULY 14, 2022
5:30 P.M.

MR. CASTLE: Welcome, folks, to ADPRO sports complex here at Highmark Stadium for the big milestone in the environmental review process for a new Buffalo Bills stadium. I'm the commissioner of the Erie Department of Environment and Planning.

And I want to thank all of you for taking the time out of your beautiful late afternoon to come out and participate in this public meeting. I also want to thank folks that are watching livestream and also those that will be watching recorded version online after this day.

I do want to acknowledge a few folks that are here in the audience. The first and someone who doesn't really need much of an introduce, Erie County Executive Mark Poloncarz, in the back. He's here listening today, but as we all are up here at the County and thank him for his leadership.

Without his leadership with the State and the Bills, we probably would not be sitting here today.

I also want to recognize in the back row,

1 Erie County Legislator John Mills who represents the
2 Town of Orchard Park. Thank you for coming out.

3 Also want to recognize town supervisor,
4 Gene Majchrzak from the Town of Orchard Park. Thank
5 you for coming out.

6 Somewhere here, John Polka is in the back.
7 John is director of stadium operations for the
8 Buffalo Bills. Thank you very much for hosting us in
9 this very unique and cool venue for the scoping
10 meeting tonight.

11 We have a number of consultants here
12 that'll be introducing themselves as we go through
13 this presentation. It's about a 30-minute
14 presentation. And it's important for you all to
15 hear what's being proposed and how we're going to be
16 reviewing this. So joining me at the head table is
17 Adam Walters and Kim Nason with the firm of Phillips
18 Lytle, the law firm that the County has retained to
19 help us lead the environmental review process. And
20 at the end is Mark Rountree, chief planner with the
21 Department of Environment and Planning. He is the
22 person who is essentially managing the day-to-day
23 process on behalf of the County.

24 I mentioned a couple times SEQOR, the
25 environmental review process that we call SEQOR for

1 short. It's a process. It's not a document. It's a
2 process, and we are early in the process. The
3 initial paperwork to begin the process was sent out
4 by the County on July 1st. July 14th, tonight, two
5 weeks in, this is our first public meeting to get
6 input on the project. We will be having another
7 opportunity for public engagement in the fall.

8 But the process of SEQOR is basically for
9 the County to make sure we make an informed decision
10 on the actions that we have to take associated with
11 building a stadium. Our actions could include
12 funding, undertaking permitting, and transfer of
13 land, and you'll hear more about those details.
14 Those are the actions that we will be evaluating and
15 making sure we make an informed decision.

16 A critical part of this process is public
17 engagement. I mentioned that here, the public
18 scoping meeting and the public hearing that will
19 happen, hopefully, in late September, in that time
20 frame.

21 So we really have three purposes for
22 tonight's scoping meeting. One is to present the
23 project plan that the Bills have come up with, spend
24 some time looking at the boards. They'll be shown
25 online. They're on the website as well. These are

1 the plans that the Bills have prepared. So one is to
2 present those plans to you early in the process.

3 Two is to explain the environmental review
4 and the various studies and analysis that we're
5 going to conduct at the County to evaluate these
6 plans. And you'll hear from the consultant team
7 through this presentation about the scope of what
8 those studies will be, whether it's traffic and
9 parking, stormwater, you know, other utilities,
10 light, noise, those types of issues. That's the
11 second part.

12 The final part is public comment, to get a
13 formal mechanism for the public to provide feedback
14 to our process. Those could be verbal comments
15 tonight. They could be comments online over the
16 next couple weeks or they could be sent in by
17 regular mail. All those instructions will be
18 provided tonight.

19 So the way this will go is I'll introduce
20 Adam and Kim. They will talk about the process,
21 followed by Scott Radecic from Populace design, who
22 will walk through the designs they're working on for
23 the Bills. Then we'll bring up some of the
24 consultant team to walk through the process of what
25 we're doing and then at the end, we'll then open it

1 up for comments.

2 So little bit more information as we go,
3 but with that, I will turn it over to Adam.

4 **MR. WALTERS:** Thank you, Dan.

5 Good evening, everyone. Wonderful to see
6 you here. For the record, as Dan said, my name is
7 Adam Walters. I'm an attorney at Phillips Lytle,
8 and I'm here tonight representing the County. I
9 spend a lot of my time in environmental impact
10 reviews. That's a big part of my practice, so I'm
11 glad to come here tonight and a little bit about
12 SEQR, State Environmental Quality Review Act. When
13 we say "SEQR", we mean S-E-Q-R, State Environmental
14 Quality Review Act. You will sometimes hear it
15 referred to as SEQRA. They just throw an A on the
16 end. But it's all the same thing.

17 It's a law. It's a law here in New York.
18 What does that law require? The law requires that
19 governmental agencies consider the environmental
20 impacts of their decisions. The agencies must
21 incorporate environmental considerations directly
22 into their decision making. They must mitigate
23 environmental impacts. And they really are
24 obligated to strike a balance between social and
25 economic goals and the environment.

1 There are a number of governmental
2 agencies involved in the new stadium. Thus, the
3 SEQR requires an assessment of potential adverse
4 environmental impacts associated with the project
5 before any governmental agencies make any binding
6 decisions. For bigger projects like the stadium
7 involving more than one governmental agency,
8 coordinated reviews are mandatory. In a coordinated
9 review, one agency acts as the lead agency for
10 purposes of making determinations with input from
11 the interested and involved agencies.

12 For this project, we have 40 different
13 potential interested and involved agencies. On July
14 1st, Erie County did send out lead agency package
15 notices that formally commence the environmental
16 review process. The next step in that process is to
17 prepare an assessment of potential environmental
18 impacts.

19 Impacts are assessed based on existing or
20 baseline conditions, which in this case include the
21 operation of the existing stadium. The
22 environmental assessment will continue for the next
23 few months. As Commissioner Castle noted, the whole
24 point of tonight's public meeting is to gather input
25 from the public as to issues we ought to be

1 addressing in that environmental assessment.

2 We were at a table earlier in the back. I
3 talked to several of you that had good ideas for
4 things that should be looked at during this
5 environmental review process. However, very few of
6 you have actually signed up to speak tonight. So I
7 want to encourage you to do so. There's a sign-in
8 sheet in the back. If you would like to speak
9 tonight, all you have to do is sign in. We would
10 love to hear from you. I understand a lot of people
11 are here just to gather information and understand
12 the project, but we really would like to hear from
13 you. So I strongly encourage people who are
14 thinking about saying something or offering a
15 comment, do that tonight. Sign up right in the
16 back. If not, you still have time to do it through
17 the website. You don't have to speak tonight if
18 you're not comfortable with that.

19 After the assessment is completed, it will
20 be released for public review and a public comment
21 period. So there will be another public meeting
22 like this. It will likely not be in this wonderful
23 facility because it will be during the season, so
24 we'll probably be somewhere else local. We will try
25 to keep the meetings local, as close as we can to

1 the stadium.

2 Let's see. I think that's about all I
3 want to tell you about the environmental review
4 process. It is a comprehensive process. It is a
5 well-established process here in New York. SEQR's
6 been in effect since 1975, so we know the process
7 really well.

8 And with that, I'm going to ask my
9 partner, Kim Nason, to come up and talk to you about
10 what is the project.

11 **MS. NASON:** Hi, everybody. So as we'll
12 hear more about in a little bit, the project, as
13 everybody knows, includes the construction of a new
14 stadium west of Abbott Road, across the street from
15 where we are now in the existing stadium, and then
16 following construction, demolition of the existing
17 stadium.

18 As Adam mentioned, there are a number of
19 governmental and agency decisions that have to be
20 made that are involved with the project. The
21 action, for purposes of this SEQR review that we're
22 talking about, as the commissioner mentioned,
23 includes certain funding by Erie County, permitting
24 by the County, and then also, in addition, it
25 includes the transfer of an area of property

1 approximately 242 acres. So if anyone was looking
2 at the plans, that's the map in yellow. That's also
3 available online. It's labeled as the land transfer
4 map.

5 So this property is currently owned by
6 Erie County. The project includes the transfer of
7 that property to the Erie County Stadium
8 Corporation. That is a state agency who will then
9 lease the property to the Bills to facilitate the
10 project. So when we're talking about the action, it
11 involves more than just construction of the stadium.
12 It's all of these approvals and decisions that need
13 to be made as well.

14 Tonight, as everybody mentioned, to
15 facilitate the environmental review, we're going to
16 describe the project in a little bit and then talk
17 about the plan to assess the environmental impacts.
18 Then it will be time for you all to comment on the
19 scope of that review.

20 So tonight, we're going to get started
21 with more details on the project, which I'm sure
22 many of you are here to hear, so we'll start with
23 Scott Radevic from Populous. He's going to give more
24 details on what exactly the project is.

25 **MR. RADECIC:** Good evening. Hi there,

1 everybody. My name is Scott Radecic, and I'm one of
2 the senior principals and partners at the
3 architecture firm, Populous. We're really very
4 pleased to be designing this stadium, not only for
5 Pegula Sports & Entertainment and the Buffalo Bills,
6 but also for every Bills fan that is out there that
7 are going to come and visit it.

8 For those of you who may not be familiar
9 with Populous, we're the largest architecture firm
10 in the world that's dedicated to designing sports
11 facilities and stadiums. We have 12 offices around
12 the world. We have over 700 staff, and we've worked
13 for 30 of the 32 NFL teams. And we've also designed
14 -- prior to this, designed 14 new NFL stadiums.

15 So I'm going to introduce you to the
16 project. Again, we're fairly early in design, so
17 there's only certain things that we've had developed
18 to this point. When we thought about our overarching
19 approach to what this project and what this building
20 should be, we wanted to create an intimate but
21 intimidating stadium experience for the fans. We've
22 used the term "football first" a lot. First and
23 foremost, the building is about fans coming to watch
24 football and the proximity of those fans to the
25 field of play and how close they can be, but also

1 how we can protect them from some of the elements
2 when it gets into some of the winter months. We
3 wanted to really harness the energy of the Buffalo
4 fans, and we wanted to create a uniquely Buffalo
5 gameday experience. So those core elements are kind
6 of at the front and the foundation of everything
7 we're doing.

8 So I brought my clicker with me here, and
9 I'm going to point to this site plan to kind of
10 identify a few things and orient you to the site.
11 Okay?

12 First and foremost is the new stadium that
13 sits to the west side of Abbott. The second element
14 of the stadium development is this little red
15 building which you'll hear us refer to it as either
16 the auxiliary building or the ancillary building.
17 It's really a separate structure, and it's meant to
18 handle more of the stadium operational areas, media
19 areas, and storage requirements. So it's just a way
20 of orienting that and locating in a place that
21 functionally will help the operations of the
22 stadium.

23 When you look at this letter C, this
24 really shows you the location of the existing
25 stadium and where that will eventually become new

1 parking. So as Kim mentioned, first and foremost,
2 we'll construct the new stadium on the west side of
3 Abbott, and once that stadium construction is
4 complete and the team can occupy it for a game, then
5 we'll go across the street and we'll demolish the
6 existing stadium and then we'll level that area and
7 we'll turn it into parking for fans for the future.

8 Letter D that you saw if you were looking
9 at these is all of the existing parking areas,
10 whether they're on the east side of Abbott or the
11 west side of Abbot, that are going to remain as they
12 are today.

13 The letter E, as you saw, these little
14 pink buildings, is really the existing ADPRO
15 Training Center and some of the operation buildings
16 that help to support the ADPRO Training Center, and
17 they're going to remain in place.

18 And then letter F, as you saw the ECC
19 buildings, those are all of the existing ECC
20 buildings that are going to remain. There won't be
21 any change to those.

22 When we started to think about the site
23 and how the site was oriented, there's a few things
24 that were really important for us. Some of us have
25 played in the building before. Others of us have

1 been fans in this building before. And so when we
2 started to think about what we wanted to do in the
3 new building, there's a few things we wanted to
4 change.

5 One, we wanted to change the orientation.
6 So as you look at this building, right now, this
7 stadium, the existing stadium goes a little bit more
8 east/west. What we were looking to do is create a
9 more north/northwest orientation for the building.
10 It's really ideal in North America for playing the
11 game of football when you think about what times
12 games occur, the sun and the air, sightlines, sun in
13 player's eyes, those types of things. But it's also,
14 when we studied wind, sun, and those different
15 factors here in Buffalo, it's also a very good
16 orientation for us as we think about protecting fans
17 with the enclosure to keep them dry, to keep them
18 warm, those types of things. So we really like that
19 orientation. We also liked the way it abuts Abbott
20 Road.

21 And the next thing was really how do we
22 start to create this prominent approach to the
23 stadium whether you're coming from the north and
24 you're coming from the south. We have been a part
25 of studies before. We do understand where people

1 are coming from. We know a majority of people park
2 and come from the north. So this kind of northeast
3 promenade was really important to us because we
4 wanted to create a really prominent entry. We're
5 thinking about things like, you know, how do we
6 identify the place? How do we make it unique? How
7 do we provide Instagramable moments? Places for
8 fans to come, gameday, nongamedays. You figure, you
9 play in the stadium your ten home games and then all
10 three playoff games and then you go to the Super
11 Bowl. Right? So we only got 13 days and we have
12 all the rest of the days that we want to make sure
13 that this is unique, special place for people who
14 are fans of the Buffalo Bills.

15 The other thing that we wanted to do, as
16 you kind of see from this rendering here to the
17 left, is that we wanted to align our entrances,
18 right, with our major pedestrian promenades so that
19 we had some really clear division. Right now,
20 right, we all just kind of converge on the building
21 at the easiest way possible. But we really wanted
22 to look at how do we create these alignments of the
23 pedestrian path through the parking, to the stadium,
24 at the entry gates. We wanted to provide
25 circulation clarity, but we also wanted to provide,

1 no matter what direction you come to the stadium,
2 dramatic views of the stadium itself.

3 Some of the project details that we
4 understand today that we're working towards? We
5 know that the new stadium will have approximately
6 60,000 seats. If you think back to 1973 when this
7 stadium opened and some of the early years, the
8 stadium had a capacity of 80,000. Then through some
9 renovations, the existing stadium was reduced to a
10 capacity that's just under 70,000 today, and now the
11 new stadium is actually going to have 60,000. So I
12 think that's a good thing to understand also.

13 We're going to have approximately 1.35
14 million square feet of usable space in the stadium.
15 You kind of say, why does that matter to us? Well,
16 it's a lot more than we have in the existing stadium
17 for 70,000. So what that really means is that
18 compared to the existing stadium, there's going to
19 be a lot more area for fans to circulate on the
20 concourses. Your seat and your tread -- your seat's
21 going to be a little deeper and a little bit wider.
22 It's going to be more comfortable. So things like
23 that that people will take notice whenever the new
24 stadium opens.

25 The other thing too is the existing

1 stadium will actually have a slightly smaller
2 footprint than Highmark Stadium has today. So the
3 existing Highmark Stadium is approximately 830 feet
4 wide and 930 feet wide, while the new stadium, it's
5 only going to be 730 wide, so it's going to be a
6 hundred feet less in width, and it's going to be 880
7 feet long. So it's 50 feet shorter in length. It's
8 a hundred feet shorter in width. So it's going to
9 be more compact, and that's actually being done on
10 purpose by our architectural team because we're
11 trying to create this intimate place where the seats
12 are right on top of the playing field to provide
13 amazing sightlines for fans but also a loud,
14 intimidating bowl. I know that our owner has said
15 that he wants every team that comes to play in this
16 stadium to say, I hate going to Buffalo to play.
17 And that's what we're trying to do from a design
18 standpoint too.

19 The new stadium's going to have multiple
20 levels. If you kind of walk around Highmark today,
21 you kind of have a main level and then either on the
22 north or south, you go up to another level. Well,
23 the new stadium's going to have multiple levels.
24 Right? There's going to be multiple concourses.
25 There's going to be a service level that's below

1 grade that you guys won't see, but it's going to
2 help operate in the function of the facility.
3 There's going to be press levels and some other
4 levels in there. So the stadium's going to be
5 stacked. It's going to be a lot steeper. In fact,
6 as we mention the steepness and the height, the
7 highest part of the existing stadium is about 140
8 feet above grade. The new stadium is going to be 50
9 feet higher. It's going to be the top of this --
10 we're hoping to be able to provide a canopy on the
11 stadium, and the top of that canopy would be at
12 about 190 feet. So it's going to be a little bit
13 taller than the existing stadium.

14 I mentioned we're hoping to have a partial
15 canopy to try to cover as many fans as we can and
16 again, protect them from rain, from wind, from snow.
17 I mentioned the ancillary building. That is going
18 to be south of the stadium for service and option
19 storage.

20 I haven't mentioned parking. So the
21 existing complex is able to park around 9,600 cars,
22 and we're now kind of planning for about 10,500, so
23 we might be able to increase the actual parking
24 count on the stadium complex, which we're hoping --
25 and it'll be in a much more organized way. So that

1 would be a really good, positive thing.

2 And again, we are targeting the opening of
3 the stadium for the 2026 football season.

4 Thank you.

5 **MS. NASON:** Thanks, Scott.

6 So now, we'll get into the scope of the
7 review that's going to be conducted in the SEQ
8 process. So as part of this process and this
9 analysis that we've mentioned so far, a number of
10 reports are going to be prepared in many different
11 areas that we'll hear about today. Generally
12 speaking, the reports that are going to be prepared
13 are going to be based on current baseline
14 conditions, historical information that's available,
15 and projected comparisons of the existing stadium to
16 the new stadium. And these will be based on the
17 conceptual design that Scott just designed.

18 So now, we're going to have some of the
19 consultant team very briefly introduce themselves
20 and then get into the scope of what they plan to
21 assess that you all can comment on tonight.

22 So we're going to start with Mark From WSP
23 on traffic and parking.

24 **MR. TYTKA:** Good evening. Can everybody
25 hear me? My name is Mark Tytko with WSP. And I can

1 only claim to be a fan, but not a former player, so
2 I'm sorry to disappoint you.

3 I work for WSP, and we are a leading
4 engineering professional services firm. We provide
5 design, planning, engineering, and construction
6 management for public and private clients across the
7 globe. And we've led a number of projects in the
8 western New York region over the past 30 years. And
9 we're pleased to be part of the Populous team, and
10 as Kim had mentioned, our role is really to take a
11 look at the traffic and parking and to do assessment
12 of that.

13 So what are we going to be doing? So
14 specifically, we're going to be performing an
15 assessment of the existing parking and comparing
16 that to conditions that will result from moving the
17 stadium to the west side of Abbott Road. And this
18 assessment is going to include an assessment of
19 traffic issues and parking conditions that will
20 result from the construction of the new stadium,
21 importantly, during the construction phase while the
22 existing stadium is still being used, and then also
23 in the post-construction phase where the new (sic)
24 stadium has been demolished.

25 So I'd like to introduce Dave -- Dave

1 Goehring, who's going to come up for the next piece
2 of traffic. Thanks, everyone.

3 Oh. And also, I'd like to thank everyone
4 who's already provided comments on traffic, written
5 comments. It's great, and we really appreciate that.

6 **MR. GOEHRING:** Hello there. My name is
7 Dave Goehring. I'm with Popli Design Group out of
8 Rochester. We are an engineering services firm that
9 provides not just engineering services, but review
10 capabilities. I've been a traffic engineer for 35
11 years, a lot with New York State DOT and I've got
12 extensive experience reviewing traffic impact
13 assessments for all sorts of types of development.
14 So this is a real -- this is of course, a unique
15 project for us, but it certainly falls within the
16 line of projects and process that I've been involved
17 with for many years.

18 Our role is to provide Erie County with
19 technical assistance in reviewing the traffic
20 assessment that Mark's team will be putting
21 together, and our team will be reviewing that
22 traffic assessment -- not only just traffic, but
23 parking -- not only for the new stadium under new
24 conditions, but as well the conditions during
25 construction and demolition of the existing

1 facilities. So we are providing that role for Erie
2 County, and it's a privilege to be part of this
3 process. Thanks.

4 **MS. NASON:** Next, we have Katie on water
5 and ecological resources.

6 **MS. HORJNACKI:** Hi, everyone. I'm Katie
7 Hojnacki with CC Environment and Planning. We are a
8 small environmental consulting firm out of Batavia,
9 New York, so here in western New York. We work
10 extensively with land managers and developers to
11 balance the needs of natural resources with the
12 needs for economic growth to have an ecologically
13 sustainable development.

14 And our part of this project is to
15 evaluate the site for natural resources. The major
16 things we're looking at, first, is aquatic
17 resources. This includes wetlands, streams,
18 drainages. We'll be mapping those, reporting on
19 those. The second major things is listed species.
20 This includes threatened and endangered species of
21 plants and animals. We'll do consultation with
22 state and federal agencies and evaluate onsite
23 conditions for any habitat for them. This'll all be
24 rolled into a report and if we find anything of
25 importance, any sensitive resources, we'll develop

1 avoidance, minimization, and mitigation strategies
2 for the project.

3 **MS. NASON:** Bob Steehler with LaBella.

4 **MR. STEEHLER:** Hello, everybody. I'm Bob
5 Steehler from LaBella Associates. We're a full
6 service architectural engineering firm headquartered
7 here in western New York with offices on Pearl
8 Street here in Buffalo.

9 We're excited to be leading the civil
10 engineering design for the project. As it relates
11 to SEQR, LaBella and our local subconsultants will
12 be evaluating the adjacent public utility
13 infrastructure and ensuring that we have adequate
14 capacity to tie the utilities of the new stadium
15 into that system.

16 So we'll be reviewing stormwater, domestic
17 water, fire service, sanitary sewer, and natural gas
18 service. In regards to stormwater, we'll be
19 designing in conformance with New York State DEC
20 state pollution discharge elimination system under
21 the umbrella of the EPA's Clean Water Act, and they
22 have certain requirements for green infrastructure,
23 water quality treatment, and water quantity storage.
24 So we'll be required to analyze runoff rates to all
25 adjacent properties and water bodies to ensure that

1 the runoff is less than or equal to existing
2 conditions.

3 So as a part of that review, we'll be
4 preparing a preliminary stormwater pollution
5 prevention plan to outline the conformance with the
6 regulations and that plan will outline the post-
7 construction stormwater facilities as well as
8 erosion and sediment control practices during
9 construction.

10 In regard to water, domestic, and fire
11 services, we'll be assisting the design team in
12 evaluating the new demands for the stadium and
13 comparing that to the existing demands of the
14 stadium today to ensure that we have adequate
15 capacity for the adjacent public water main owned
16 and operated by the Erie County Water authority.

17 For sanitary sewer, we'll be evaluating
18 the existing sewer system adjacent to Smokes Creek.
19 There's a 21-inch trunk main system along the creek
20 owned and operated by Erie County Division of
21 Sewerage Management and Erie County Sewer District
22 Number 3.

23 Based on our initial discussions with the
24 County DSM, the existing pipe network will have the
25 capacity to serve the projects. That's for the

1 existing stadium ties. There's an existing
2 attenuation tank associated with that. We'll be
3 evaluating that attenuation tank and looking at
4 whether or not that tank can be reused for the new
5 stadium or a new attenuation tank will go in. So
6 we're not proposing to tie it to any of the adjacent
7 sanitary systems in the Town of Orchard Park or the
8 Town of Hamburg, which we understand are at
9 capacity.

10 For natural gas, we'll be assisting the
11 design team in evaluating the new stadium's gas
12 service and comparing that to the existing gas
13 service demand of Highmark Stadium to ensure that
14 there's adequate capacity in the gas main on Abbott
15 Road owned and operated by National Fuel Gas.

16 So in summary, we're currently in the
17 process of reviewing the record drawings of each of
18 the utilities and setting up meetings with all of
19 the stakeholders. We've already met with your
20 county Division of Sewerage Management and National
21 Fuel Gas. And if adequate capacity is a concern,
22 we're going to evaluate that and look at ways to
23 mitigate each respective utility to accommodate the
24 proposed project.

25 **MS. NASON:** Now Chris Wood from Wood

1 Design.

2 **MR. WOOD:** Good evening. I'm Chris Wood
3 with Carmina Wood Design. We're a full service
4 architecture engineering company located in Buffalo,
5 New York. We're working on behalf of Erie County to
6 review the water, sanitary, and stormwater design
7 that Bob described in his presentation. And again,
8 we'll be coordinating with the local entities that
9 control those utilities, and at the end of our
10 review, we will be preparing a report to present to
11 the County and to confirm that Bob's conclusions are
12 correct. Thanks.

13 **MR. WALTERS:** All righty. So you've heard
14 from some of our consultants. There are a number of
15 other studies that are being prepared to analyze
16 environmental impacts of the project. These include
17 lighting and viewshed analysis with massing
18 simulations of the new stadium, a noise analysis
19 comparing existing conditions to the new proposed
20 stadium, hazardous materials assessments,
21 archaeological investigations, geotech, and there
22 will also be an analysis of comparative impacts
23 between the project and other stadium locations that
24 have been considered.

25 So hopefully, we've given you a pretty

1 good sense of the scope of the review that is to be
2 done. But again, we really want to hear from you
3 tonight if you do have anything you'd like us to
4 study.

5 With that, I will turn it over to Mark
6 Rountree, the chief planner of the Erie County of
7 Environment and Planning.

8 **MR. ROUNTREE:** Thank you, Adam. As Dan
9 mentioned, I'm the project manager from the County.
10 Just wanted to mention the project website,
11 buffalobills.seqr.com. There's a number of boards
12 around that have a QR code. We're going to be using
13 that as the conduit of information. You have the
14 opportunity to submit comments through there. We're
15 accepting comments through July 29th. But there
16 will be another opportunity for the public to review
17 the material in the fall. We're planning a public
18 hearing at a date to be determined. Again, if you
19 want to sign up for updates on the website, the
20 information about the public hearing will be made
21 available there. So thank you.

22 **MR. CASTLE:** Well, thank you, everyone.
23 That was a lot of information and a lot of
24 consultants. I do want to just clarify. It does
25 seem like there's a lot of consultants. But

1 understanding the process, the Bills have a lot of
2 consultants doing their work and analysis and as
3 part of the County's due diligence of the plans that
4 they're putting together, we brought in some of our
5 own expertise and capabilities just to verify that
6 in our own review. So it seems like a lot, but we
7 wanted to walk through that for folks because not
8 only are we presenting it to you here in the room,
9 we're presenting to people watching online that
10 don't have the benefit of seeing boards, and it's
11 also, as I mentioned earlier, this is being recorded
12 and will be available so people that aren't
13 available at this time can go onto the website and
14 watch this and get all the same information that
15 we've had the benefit of. So definitely appreciate
16 your patience and we are right on schedule, which is
17 great.

18 We do only have a couple speakers that
19 have signed up. We will allow for other people to
20 speak, if you'd like. The speakers -- normally, we
21 want to keep these to three minutes because you
22 never know how many people are going to talk, and we
23 were joking earlier we could have set the play clock
24 on the clock back here and had some referee throw a
25 flag at you if you went over three minutes, but I

1 don't think we have that problem tonight.

2 So I will ask you -- the first speaker is
3 Laura Balkoski (phonetic). If you would like to
4 come up to the microphone and leave us with some
5 comments, that would be terrific.

6 Right behind you, yep, so we can hear it.

7 **34 MS. BALKOSKI:** My name is Laura Balkoski.
8 I do have just a couple questions. You mentioned
9 about the height of the stadium. Me, being my age,
10 will I be able to get up to that very top level
11 without killing myself?

12 **MR. CASTLE:** What I will say is that the
13 facility will be ADA compliant.

14 **MS. BALKOSKI:** Okay.

15 **MR. CASTLE:** So I think the answer would
16 be it has to be.

17 **34 MS. BALKOSKI:** Okay. And we're -- just
18 another - - we are a tailgating community. Will
19 there be accommodations for tailgating within the
20 stadium parking area and everything?

21 **MR. CASTLE:** Okay. Thank you for the
22 comment. And I'm sure that will all be addressed in
23 the documents. Like I said earlier, we're not really
24 prepared to answer questions here tonight because we
25 haven't done our analysis, but it certainly seems to

1 me that the way Scott Radecic was talking is they're
2 designing this for the gameday experience, so I
3 think it would be remiss of the Bills not to allow
4 for that, so.

5 **34 MS. BALKOSKI:** Okay. Just one more thing.
6 Sidewalks. Would sidewalks be added into this whole
7 infrastructure?

8 **MR. CASTLE:** We will put that into the
9 analysis and look at what the traffic studies say,
10 the pedestrian analysis says, and if sidewalks are
11 warranted, that will be presented to the group here
12 in the public in September.

13 **MS. BALKOSKI:** Okay. Thank you.

14 **MR. CASTLE:** Yep. The next speaker is
15 Eric (Maj- i-tal). Sorry. I may not have
16 pronounced that correctly.

17 **MR. MATWIJOW:** It's (Ma-tweel-al).

18 **MR. CASTLE:** Okay.

19 **35 MR. MATWIJOW:** Close enough. I know my
20 handwriting isn't the best.

21 I know it's a great thing that no private
22 properties were taken. That was always a worry of
23 the stadium complex coming in, but I have a feeling
24 that my property will be in the way of -- taken away
25 from me because of the 75,000 square foot auxiliary

1 building. My property, the Hammer's Lot, will be
2 directly downwind from this building. We don't know
3 how high it's going to be. I'm also a roofing
4 contractor. I know a little bit about snow, and
5 I've also lived here all my life, and I know how the
6 snow and the wind blows here. When the wind comes
7 over a building, you have a force and then you have
8 a vacuum and a drop. And with this building, where
9 is the snow going to drop? On my property. So I'd
10 like to see how this going to be addressed. I don't
11 have any problems now, but then again, snow also,
12 when it drops, it gets hard-packed. Also, with the
13 size of the buildings, we're going to have a wind
14 tunnel on both sides of it. So also, I think that
15 likes to be a consideration. Also, with the
16 stadium, I think it's going to be a hundred feet
17 away from Abbott Road, so no more roadblocks for the
18 security purposes. I'm guessing that. Will Abbott
19 Road be expanded from Big Tree Road up to -- from
20 four lanes to five lanes? I think that's pretty
21 much it. Thank you very much.

22 **MR. CASTLE:** Okay. Those are all great
23 comments and they will be addressed. And obviously,
24 everybody knows how to get ahold of you.

25 Would anybody else like to speak? That's

1 actually it for the people who have signed up.

2 Why don't you come up to the microphone,
3 state your name and address for the record.

4 **36 MR. BLANK:** My name is Donald Blank. I'm
5 a graduate of UB in 1968, but I'm living back in
6 Buffalo for about ten years. And I'm going to go on
7 a different subject, if I may be permitted, which is
8 the construction of the stadium. As Erie County and
9 New York State taxpayers are the largest funders of
10 the new Bills stadium, it is logical and proper to
11 maximize the benefit for New York businesses and
12 workers. New York companies should be able to match
13 the lowest bids of out-of-state companies working on
14 the stadium or providing materials needed. The
15 Northland Workforce Training Center in Buffalo,
16 Buffalo Public Schools with vocational programs, and
17 our community colleges can train local unemployed or
18 underpaid workers to work on the construction.
19 There is time to train blacks, Latino Americans,
20 immigrants, Native Americans to master skills needed
21 for high-paying jobs building the new stadium. We
22 have African American politicians locally, in
23 Albany, and in the city, and I believe the owners,
24 the Pegulas, should insist on spending our tax money
25 to benefit New York businesses and enable hundreds

1 of deserving, diverse locals to work on this
2 project. Two months after the Tops murders, giving
3 hundreds of good jobs to Buffalo's poor is possible
4 and the right thing to do, and I hope some people
5 can meet with the county executive and -- is that
6 possible, County Executive, that we can -- some
7 citizens and organizations can meet with you on this
8 issue?

9 **UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:** You can direct your
10 comments forward.

11 **MR. CASTLE:** Excuse me. Sir, we'll --

12 **MR. BLANK:** I'll ask him.

13 **MR. CASTLE:** -- we're just taking feedback
14 today. We're not answering questions and getting
15 into a discussion. Thank you for your comments.

16 I would note that a couple other people
17 did sign up. I just didn't look far enough down in
18 the -- with the -- so I apologize for that.

19 We have a Donald Blank.

20 **MR. BLANK:** That's me.

21 **MR. CASTLE:** Oh, okay. And John Mills,
22 Legislator Mills. I'm sorry. I did not acknowledge
23 you right off the bat, but thank you very much.

24 **37** **LEGISLATOR MILLS:** Thank you, Dan, and I
25 want to commend the administration for their efforts

1 in putting the stadium together. I probably know a
2 lot of people in this audience since I'm a lifelong
3 resident of the Town of Orchard Park and I
4 represented them as town councilman for 22 years and
5 now as a county legislator. But I can tell you that
6 I was around, as a young man, of course, for the
7 original Highmark Stadium here. And I remember what
8 a great opportunity it was for western New York to
9 have that facility.

10 But it came with a lot of adversity,
11 traffic problems, offsite parking, satellite lots.
12 It was a lot of controversy. And then we had the
13 Wilson group, having the concerts, and then all hell
14 broke loose with drugs circulating and a lot of
15 alcohol. There was a lot of infringing on
16 neighbors. You know, it was just a real nasty
17 situation that kind of calmed itself down.

18 What I want to point out here is since
19 I've had the advantage of seeing all this over the
20 years, along with Mr. Matwijow, by the way, that
21 what we do need for sure is sidewalks. I know the
22 lady mentioned sidewalks. Well, we need it
23 specifically, okay. Wide handicapped sidewalks
24 running from Southwestern Boulevard, north on Abbott
25 Road up to Milestrip Road on both sides, the Hamburg

1 side and the Orchard Park side, because these are
2 residents that have been suffering for years without
3 proper ability to go up and down that road.

4 But the bigger picture is for all the
5 residents and people from outside the area that come
6 into that vein to have good access, safe access, to
7 the new stadium. So I would like the powers-to-be
8 here to study that situation as we truly need it.
9 There were a couple fatalities, unfortunately,
10 because of the fact you cannot -- you got to walk in
11 the road, and that's unacceptable to this legislator
12 and I think the people of western New York. So I
13 hope you take that serious consideration because
14 it's so important to the public safety that
15 surrounds the stadium. Thank you.

16 **MR. CASTLE:** Thank you, Legislator.
17 Appreciate that.

18 I do have another yes from Nathan Feist
19 (phonetic).

20 **38 MR. FEIST:** Hi. I'd like to know what
21 investments will be made in our local communities to
22 accompany this deal, this project, and -- including
23 improvement in public transit. I agree with
24 Legislator Mills that we need more sidewalks. I'd
25 also like to know about bus routes and shuttles,

1 including for employees.

2 **MR. CASTLE:** Okay. Great. Thank you.

3 Thank you very much.

4 And I have a maybe from David Even. Glad

5 you're a yes.

6 **39 MR. EVEN:** Yes. Yeah. I'm happy too.

7 David Even, with the -- president of the Orchard

8 Park's Chamber of Commerce. And I'm the liaison to

9 the Orchard Park Economic Development Committee.

10 And I just want to thank you all for your

11 presentation today and giving us some more

12 information.

13 I guess my comment would be just going

14 along with Legislator Mills and the comments, how we

15 can better help the Town of Orchard Park and the

16 village because I feel the last 30 years, we haven't

17 embraced the Bills as much as we could have with the

18 new stadium and hopefully, with sidewalks and

19 transportation, we could get people back into the

20 heart of Orchard Park and doing business with that,

21 so we'd appreciate having your input on that. So

22 thank you so much.

23 **MR. CASTLE:** Thank you.

24 Yes. Why don't you come up to the

25 microphone, introduce yourself, please. Where you

1 live.

2 **40** **MR. DOBIES:** Yeah. My name's Ernie
3 Dobies. I live at 4942 Big Tree. And I realize it
4 did not take any of the homes, which it didn't
5 matter one way or the other, but that main lane that
6 they have coming from the stadium to where the ECC
7 exit thing is leads right onto our properties. Now,
8 I know in the past, we're on this side of the
9 stadium. We shouldn't have had the big problems.
10 But I've got people that stop to do all their needs
11 right in my backyard. They don't care if they drop
12 trou. They don't care what they got to do. And our
13 whole yard is boxed in with pine trees. They come
14 right through the pine trees and they'll sit right
15 in the middle. I have underwear left over after a
16 game and every other kind of thing imaginable. Okay?
17 I put up with it all these years. I'm just kind of
18 hoping that in their kindness, they can put some
19 kind of a security thing, be it a berm with some
20 trees, fencing, something -- there's only four or
21 five houses, but we got to put up with all these
22 people coming right through our property every time
23 there's a game.

24 **MR. CASTLE:** Great.

25 **MR. DOBIES:** Okay?

1 **MR. CASTLE:** Awesome. Thank you for your
2 comment.

3 **MR. DOBIES:** Thank you.

4 **MR. CASTLE:** I did -- when I introduced
5 some of the elected officials before, I hadn't seen
6 Randy Hoak, supervisor of Town of Hamburg. Thank
7 you for coming out.

8 Anyone else like to speak? Come up to the
9 microphone, introduce yourself, state your name,
10 please.

11 **41 MR. EBELING:** How you doing? I'm Mark
12 from Danny's restaurant, right down the street. My
13 concern is - - and it's been like this for probably
14 22 years -- the water pressure. The water pressure
15 is nowhere. I mean, we installed pumps in our
16 bathrooms at the restaurant just to flush the
17 toilets during game day. Okay? I don't know what
18 gives, but maybe these guys that do their thing
19 could check into this. That's all. You know,
20 that's all I got to say. And sidewalks would be
21 really nice. Thank you.

22 **MR. CASTLE:** Thank you. Good comment.
23 Want to come up and state your name?

24 **42 MR. FESSLER:** Bob Fessler. I live on Big
25 Tree Road, across from the stadium. It's been my

1 understanding that back when the Bills did
2 renovation on the present stadium, six years ago,
3 that the original renovation plan included a
4 pedestrian bridge over Abbott Road and I was
5 wondering if that was taken into consideration under
6 the new proposal. There have been several problems
7 with the closing of Abbott Road on gamedays, both
8 for residents getting in and out of their properties
9 and also for the fans. And if the majority of the
10 parking for the new stadium is actually going to be
11 on the east side of Abbott Road, it would seem to me
12 to be something that would be worthwhile to
13 consider, to at least have pedestrian bridge over
14 there so that you wouldn't have to close Abbott Road
15 for every game. I believe there's also been a few
16 people that have been hit by vehicles while they
17 were going across the road.

18 The other comment I had was it's kind of
19 farther down the road, but after the existing
20 stadium is demolished, where is that traffic going
21 to be directed when they're exiting the stadium? I
22 live on Big Tree Road, and it is the smallest
23 roadway that borders the present stadium. And it's
24 only a one-lane road on either way, and when the
25 game is over, it's a traffic nightmare for quite a

1 while because 99 percent of the people go to the 219
2 expressway and then go north toward Buffalo. So I'm
3 anxious to see what they plan on doing to improve
4 that. And I'm not an engineer or anything else, but
5 I have lived on Big Tree Road for 36 years and I've
6 watched the traffic patterns there, so if anybody
7 from the traffic consultants wanted any input from
8 some of the lot owners, I would be happy to provide
9 it. Thank you.

10 **MR. CASTLE:** Thank you very much for your
11 comments.

12 Please state your name.

13 **43 MR. POLAKIS:** Yeah, good evening. My name
14 is Bob Polakis (phonetic). I live in the
15 neighborhood. I just wanted to make a comment. I
16 support the building the sidewalks and it's nice to
17 see the sidewalks along Route 20, but everybody
18 should be aware that the state basically pulled a
19 fast one on us. They put the sidewalks in and
20 turned it over to the town and then the town put it
21 on the backs of the property owners and that isn't
22 right when you've got two tandem dump trucks coming
23 down the road, putting snow on the sidewalk and
24 you're responsible for keeping that sidewalk clear.
25 So in view of all these promises and talk of

1 community benefits, I think one of the community
2 benefits around here would surely be to keep the
3 sidewalks on some form of government level.

4 And as far as the gentleman over here that
5 commented with the underwear coming down and nobody
6 cares about anything anymore, I agree with that
7 10,000 percent. I've actually asked John Mills at
8 another meeting if we could do something about
9 putting garbage cans at levels, at certain areas or
10 intervals and some Porta-Johns because like I said,
11 people have no shame or pride anymore. It doesn't
12 matter, male or female, whatever happens happens.
13 And you know, we're not going to live or die about
14 it, but it's not how civilized people work, and so I
15 thank you for the opportunity to talk, and I would
16 like to reiterate the concern about the sidewalks.
17 That's just not a fair thing to do. And anybody
18 who's supporting the sidewalks ought to support for
19 government clearance of the sidewalks as well. Thank
20 you very much.

21 **MR. CASTLE:** Thank you very much.

22 Would you like to come up and state your
23 name, please?

24 **44 MR. DOBIES:** Yeah. My name's Ernie
25 Dobies. I own Saville's Outdoor Power Equipment

1 here in town. We go back to the conversation about
2 the people using my property as a restroom. They do
3 put Porta-Johns right behind my property. But the
4 line's always 40, 50 feet long. And these people do
5 not want to use a Porta-John that they have to wait
6 that long for, so you have to -- they just come
7 right in and do whatever they've got to do. And
8 honestly, it's sickening.

9 And another thing I have to agree with was
10 the water pressure. Since I've moved here -- now,
11 you can fill a coffee pot by turning the water on,
12 go get cleaned up in the bathroom and come back and
13 get your coffee. So I think they need to look into
14 the water pressure issue. So okay? Thank you.

15 **MR. CASTLE:** Thank you very much. That's
16 just the type of comments we're looking for.

17 Any other comments? Yep? Please, state
18 your name, please.

19 **45 MR. COSTELLO:** Marcus Costello of Kenmore.
20 I sort of -- others stole the thunder about the idea
21 of public transportation access, or at least it's
22 better. I remember for years going to games. They
23 used to have that '93 Ralph Wilson bus, the Metro,
24 and they got rid of it, and I never knew why. And
25 they never asked the fans how they felt about it. I

1 would have paid more money to be able to have that
2 bus going from downtown or UB or Nut Falls like they
3 did. I hope that maybe this coming season --
4 because they're going to start the -- the work is
5 going to start on the new stadium probably next
6 spring -- I know that's what they're hoping for --
7 and from that time on, getting to the stadium and
8 back would be nice with the bus back.

9 And the other thing, too, is that I don't
10 mind walking from Abbott and Lake where the bus
11 takes you now, but it is a long walk, and if the
12 weather's terrible, it's not easy. And again, the
13 sidewalks. Thanks.

14 **MR. CASTLE:** Okay. Thank you very much.

15 Any further comments? Going once? Going
16 twice? Sold.

17 Thank you very much for coming out
18 tonight. Again, check out the website. If you
19 signed in, we'll have you on our mailing to keep you
20 posted on future meetings and opportunities. And
21 again, thank you so much for your time.

22 **(The Public SEQOR Scoping Meeting concluded**
23 **at 6:30 p.m.)**

24
25

CERTIFICATE

I, Lisa Ann Lopez, do hereby certify that I reported all proceedings adduced in the foregoing matter and that the foregoing transcript pages constitutes a full, true, and accurate record of said proceedings to the best of my ability.

I further certify that I am neither related to counsel or any party to the proceedings nor have any interest in the outcome of the proceedings.

IN WITNESS HEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 22nd day of July, 2022

Lisa Ann Lopez