

# TOWN of NORTH EAST

19 North Maple Avenue  
P.O. Box 516  
Millerton, New York 12546

**Town Supervisor**

Phone 518-789-3300, Ext. 608 ~ Facsimile 518-789-3399

April 15, 2016

Honorable Anthony Foxx, Secretary of Transportation  
U.S Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington DC, 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing in support of the Dutchess County and Harlem Valley Rail Trail Association's (HVRTA) application to complete the eight-mile trail connection between the Village of Millerton and Under Mountain Road in the Town of Ancram; the tunnel crossing of State Route 22 at the intersection of State Route 22 and Orphan Farm Rd. (Copake Falls); and three pedestrian bridges to connect to the trail at Black Grocery Rd. in Copake. These three components will finish approximately 28 miles of trail from Wassaic (Dutchess County) to Hillsdale (Columbia County), linking to New York City via Metro North Railroad. Upon completion the entire trail will be 46 miles in length.

This project will join two counties, NY State Parks, and a not for profit in a project which will become a destination for thousands of people from near and afar. Since the Town of North East and the Village of Millerton are centrally located on the HVRTA, we have already had an opportunity to observe the economic impact from increased tourism that the current section has provided. We can only imagine, and greatly look forward to, what the completion of this project will mean to ours and all towns location along its path.

I am hopeful that the you and the review committee will consider a grant for the Harlem Valley Rail Trail Association to aid them in improving this important "connection" in eastern Dutchess and Columbia Counties. Thank you.

Sincerely,



George Kaye  
Town Supervisor  
Town of North East