

Mr. Philip W. Morrissey
■ Cotton Ct
Clifton Park, New York 12065

October 6, 2026

Members of the Town Board
Town of Clifton Park
1 Town Hall Plaza
Clifton Park, New York 12065

Re: Support for a Formal Trail Connection from Calico Colony to Clifton Commons and Expansion of Pedestrian Safety Measures

Dear Members of the Board:

I am a resident of Calico Colony, and I am writing to express my support for formalizing the trail and access point at the end of Lace Lane connecting our neighborhood to Clifton Commons. I also ask the Board to support additional trail connections and pedestrian safety improvements across the town.

I respect the concerns raised at the September 15th meeting about process, parking, and neighborhood impact, and I believe they can be addressed through good design. But the connection already exists. Residents use it today as an informal grass path with no defined surface, no accessibility, and no one responsible for its upkeep. Formalizing it gives the town a way to manage what is already happening.

Benefits of a formal trail:

- **Safety-** A defined, maintained surface reduces erosion, mud, and trip hazards.
- **ADA Accessibility-** An informal grass path is difficult or impossible for wheelchair users, people with walkers or cones, and families with strollers. A formal trail can be built with a firm, stable, slip-resistant surface/ material and appropriate width and grades, in line with applicable ADA accessibility standards. This gives residents of all ages and abilities equal access to the Commons.

- **Fewer car trips-** A direct walking and biking route lets residents reach the Commons without driving, which eases traffic and parking demand on both sides.
- **Managed impact-** One designated access point is easier to light, sign, and maintain than scattered informal paths, and it improves visibility and emergency access.
- **Shared benefit-** Calico Colony residents are among the primary users, and the connection strengthens the relationship between the neighborhood and the Commons.

Addressing neighbor concerns:

I encourage the Board to pair the project with practical measures: signage discouraging parking at the access point, enforcement of existing parking rules on neighborhood streets, appropriate lighting and landscaping buffers for adjacent properties, and a clear maintenance plan. I also urge the Board to hold a meeting with adjacent property owners to review the design, so that those most directly affected have a meaningful voice.

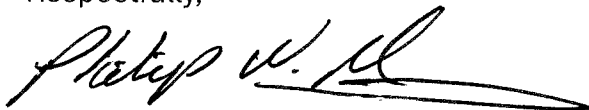
Broader request:

Beyond this project, I ask the Board to support:

1. Additional trail and sidewalk connections linking neighborhoods to parks, schools, and commercial areas.
2. Pedestrian safety improvements such as marked crosswalks, traffic calming, adequate lighting, and safe crossings at high-traffic intersections.
3. A town-wide trail and pedestrian connectivity plan that sets clear criteria for evaluating new connections and includes public input.

Thank you for your time and your service to the community.

Respectfully,



Mr. Philip W. Morrissey